



Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

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Iran

Citing a CNN interview, Tehran radio reported that U.S. Secretary of State James Baker said that the United States is prepared to negotiate "face to face" with Iranian officials and discuss various issues. The source noted that this is the "second time in the past few days" that U.S. officials expressed "willingness to hold direct talks."

Participating in the Geneva UN disarmament conference, Foreign Minister Velayati rejected rumors that "Iran is trying to produce a nuclear bomb by the end of this century," Tehran international radio reported. Velayati said that "Iran's gates are open to international inspectors" to inspect the country's nuclear facilities and Israel's should be too.

Iraq

In an interview with local press, Iraqi Trade Minister Salih said U.S. aircraft "burned more than 11,000 dunums planted with wheat and barley," according to INA. He said the "new aggression targeted 22 agricultural sites" and set fire "to a total of 6,600 tonnes," calling it the "most appalling criminal attempt" against Iraq, INA reported.

The Iraqi opposition concluded its conference in Vienna on 19 June, Kurdistan radio reported, and in its official statement the conference announced "the creation of a council and an executive committee that will function as a government-in-exile" and "approved several resolutions and recommendations regarding the future of Iraq."

Israel

In reaction to the meeting between members of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks and Yasir 'Arafat, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said "the move contradicts everything that had been agreed upon before the peace process started," and that "we will take it into account in all future political moves," Jerusalem radio reported. Foreign Minister David Levi "warned" that the meeting may "have serious repercussions," and Police Affairs Minister Roni Milo said that the police will "handle the affair according to the law," the radio reported.

Afghanistan

Tehran IRNA reported that a plane flying from Mazar Sharif to Kabul "carrying Babrak Karmal, former head of the Afghan regime, and 'Abdol Rashid Dostam, commander of Afghan militia forces, crashed near Kabul" on 20 June "and its passengers were killed, according to Senator Sami-ul-Haq, secretary general of Pakistan's Ulama Association," who also said that the crash was "probably due to a plot hatched in advance by opponents." According to Tehran Radio, "various Afghan sources denied" that Dostam was killed, and reports indicate that he "is due to give a television interview to offer explanations."

Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab League Chief Meets With Lebanese Speaker

NC2106065692 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 2000 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Isamat 'Abd-al-Majid met this evening with Lebanese Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni, who is currently visiting Cairo. They discussed the situation in Lebanon and Arab efforts in this respect.

Following the meeting, al-Husayni stated that the Arab League and Lebanese views were identical on the subjects discussed, particularly the continuing Israeli aggression against Lebanon. He added that he discussed all aspects of the Lebanese crisis with the secretary general, noting that Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid briefed him about recent contacts to hold an urgent meeting of Arab foreign ministers [break in transmission] in July to discuss the Israeli aggression against Lebanon.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid stated that the situation in Lebanon is a high priority for the Arab League. He called on Israel to comply with international legitimacy and called for economic backing for Lebanon. He noted that the Arab League looks forward to stability returning to Lebanon, and he urged Arab countries to cooperate in assisting Lebanon in all fields, particularly the economy.

Arab League Chief Leaves for Vienna, OAU Summit

NC2106070292 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0625 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jun (MENA)—Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Isamat 'Abd-al-Majid left Cairo for Vienna this morning for a three-day visit to Austria.

In a predeparture statement, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid said he will hold talks with Austrian President Kurt Waldheim concerning future Arab-Austrian relations, developments in the regional peace process, and Arab-European relations.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid added he will also visit Romania for talks with officials there. He will then visit Senegal on 28 June, where he will lead the Arab League delegation to the OAU summit in Dakar 29 June-1 July.

Islamic Affairs

ICO Issues Resolutions on Bosnia, South Lebanon

LD1906194192 Tehran IRNA in English 0812 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] Ankara, June 19, IRNA—The foreign ministers of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) [ICO], in their fifth extraordinary session held in Istanbul, Turkey June 17-18, issued three resolutions on the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Israeli occupation of

Lebanon and the repeated Israeli aggressions on southern Lebanon, and on the question of Palestine and the Arab- Israeli conflict.

The full text of the resolutions follow:

On Bosnia-Herzegovina:

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference which emphasize the common goals and destiny of the peoples of the Islamic ummah and their commitment to consolidate international peace and security,

Bearing in mind the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and the obligation of states to act at all times in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling that the sixth Islamic summit conference held in Dakar in December 1991, had declared its full solidarity with the Government and people of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina and had expressed its anxiety over the situation,

Reaffirming the obligation of all states to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the political independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of any state,

Welcoming the admission of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina as a member of the United Nations,

Expressing its alarm at the critical situation in the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina arising from the acts of violence perpetrated by the Yugoslav National Army (JNA) and Serbian irregular forces assisted and encouraged by the Serbian leaderships in Belgrade and in Bosnia-Herzegovina,

Affirming that no territorial gains or changes brought about by violence are acceptable and that the borders of Bosnia-Herzegovina are inviolable,

Deeply alarmed at the gross violations of the human rights of the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina, particularly Muslims living in that republic,

Alarmed by the serious deterioration of the living conditions of the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina arising from the military action taken by Yugoslav National Army and the Serbian irregular forces,

Further alarmed by the growing refugee problem as a result of the violence in Bosnia-Herzegovina,

Deeply concerned over the plight of the Muslims in other parts of former Yugoslavia particularly over the violent Serbian repression against the Muslims of Kosovo and in the Sanjak region,

Alarmed at the prospect of the fighting spreading to Kosovo, the Sanjak and other regions,

Considering that the United Nations, pursuant to the provisions of its Charter, has a major role and responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Recalling all relevant resolutions of the Security Council concerning Bosnia-Herzegovina particularly resolutions nos. 757 (1992) and 758 (1992),

Noting that the claim of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to assume automatically the membership of the former Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia (SFRY) in international organizations has generally not been accepted,

Expressing its appreciation for the efforts being made by the European Community particularly the Conference on Yugoslavia to find a negotiated solution of the problem,

1. Reaffirms its full solidarity and support for the Government and people of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina in their just struggle to safeguard their sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity and unity.

2. Strongly condemns the acts of violence and indiscriminate use of force by the Yugoslav National Army and the Serbian irregular forces in the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

3. Expresses its appreciation for member states which have recognized the independence of Bosnia-Herzegovina and are providing humanitarian assistance to the people of that republic and calls upon the member states which have not done so yet to recognize the Republic of B-H [as received] immediately.

4. Demands that those units of the Yugoslav National Army now in B-H must either be withdrawn or subject themselves to the authority of the Government of B-H, or be disarmed and disbanded with their weapons placed under effective international monitoring.

5. Calls for the disarming and disbanding of all Serbian irregular forces and other armed elements in the Republic of B-H under effective international supervision and control.

6. Affirms the importance and urgency of strengthening the territorial defense forces of the Republic of B-H so that they could assume their responsibilities over the entire territory of the Republic of B-H.

7. Welcomes and fully supports the measures taken by the UN Security Council in imposing comprehensive mandatory sanctions against Serbia-Montenegro including a ban on the supply of oil and urges all states to fully comply with these sanctions.

8. Expresses its strong condemnation of the wanton destruction of the cities and historical, religious and

cultural heritage of B-H and welcomes the resolution of the UNESCO Executive Board of 22 May 1992 to this effect.

9. Calls for respect of the current ceasefire arrangements as well as of the principles of humanitarian law including the relevant Geneva conventions.

10. Strongly condemns the non-compliance by the Serbian leadership both in Belgrade and in B-H with all relevant Security Council resolutions invoking Article 41 of Chapter VII of the UN Charter pertaining to economic sanctions.

11. Urges the UN Security Council to invoke Article 42 of Chapter VII which calls for coordinated action by air, sea or land forces to restore international peace and security when means provided in Article 41 have proved to be inadequate.

12. Calls upon member states to provide full support to the United Nations in terms of personnel and resources for any measures deemed necessary by the Security Council for the enforcement and implementation of its resolutions relating to B-H.

13. Calls upon the Serbian authorities in Belgrade to commit themselves to respect the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the republics of B-H, Croatia, Slovenia and Macedonia.

14. Further calls upon the Serbian authorities to refrain from altering the demographic composition of B-H and to bring about forthwith the necessary conditions that would allow the safe return of the refugees to their homes, while respecting the rights of the minorities and national or ethnic groups, including those in Kosovo, Vojvodina and the Sanjak.

15. Holds the Serbian authorities both in Belgrade and B-H fully responsible for the atrocities perpetrated by the Yugoslav National Army and the Serbian irregular forces against the Muslims and Croats of B-H as well as for obstructing and preventing food and relief supplies from reaching the starving people and victims of the conflict, which constitutes a serious violation of humanitarian law, and reminds that they would be held responsible for war crimes.

16. Draws the attention of the international community to the tragic environmental consequences of the aggression against B-H and particularly to the likelihood of further environmental disaster, in the face of the continuing attacks on the city of Tuzla, which has one of the biggest chemical complexes in the Balkans.

17. Supports the ongoing efforts of the United Nations for the opening of the Sarajevo Airport and for the establishment of security zones in various parts of the Republic of B-H.

18. Commends the ongoing UN peace keeping operations in B-H and calls upon the Security Council to

further enhance their effectiveness in order to preserve the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of B-H.

19. Urges all states not to recognize the succession of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to the former Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia, until it fully complies with the Security Council resolutions concerning B-H, and formally and unequivocally recognizes the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and unity of that republic.

20. Expresses its appreciation for the commendable efforts of the Islamic and other international humanitarian bodies in providing relief and assistance to the victims of the conflict in B-H.

21. Approves the recommendations of the secretary general to launch an OIC/Islamic Development Bank program for providing humanitarian and reconstruction assistance to the Government and people of B-H and appeals to the member states, Islamic institutions and philanthropists to make generous voluntary donations to this effect. 22. Recommends to the member states to observe a day of solidarity with the people of B-H and to start special fund-raising campaigns at the national level to help them.

23. Decides to establish a contact group composed of member states and the General Secretariat with a view to investigating the tragic situation in B-H and keeping the developments in the former Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia under review.

24. Requests the secretary general to follow up the implementation of this resolution.

Resolution on Israel's occupation of Lebanese territory and the repeated Israeli aggression on south Lebanon:

Pursuant to the United Nations' Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Pursuant to the Charter of the OIC and all relevant resolutions of previous Islamic conferences, the latest of which was resolution 5/6-p (I.S.),

Deeply concerned at the continued Israeli occupation of territories in southern Lebanon, the continued Israeli aggression against the Lebanese territories and the killing of innocent victims as a result of these acts of aggression,

Recalling the UN General Assembly resolution no. 3314 (d-92) of 14 December 1974 on repulsion of the aggression,

Drawing the attention of the international community and the Security Council to the danger of continued Israeli violations of the principles of international law and of the Charter and resolutions of the United Nations without any deterrent as though Israel were exempted from compliance with the principles of the UN Charter, the resolutions of the Security Council and the criteria of international legality, decides:

First: To condemn continuing Israeli aggressions against Lebanon and to denounce Israeli practices in southern Lebanon, which constitute a serious threat to peace and security in the region, and to the current efforts of the international community to bring about a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East pursuant to the resolutions of the Security Council and international legality,

Second: To express its full support for the steadfastness of the Lebanese people in the face of the Israeli occupation forces,

Third: To call on the international community to intensify its efforts through the Security Council for the adoption of effective measures to compel Israel to withdraw from southern Lebanon in compliance with Security Council resolution 425, and to immediately terminate all its acts of aggression and practices which contravene the principles of the UN Charter and the provisions of the relevant Geneva conventions,

Fourth: To call upon the international community to urgently contribute to the international fund for the reconstruction of Lebanon and to extend all possible assistance to Lebanon so as to speed up the reconstruction of its economic and social facilities and to enable the Lebanese people to overcome their difficult living conditions, to enhance their development and prosperity and to preserve their independence and territorial unity.

Resolution on the question of Palestine and al-Quds al-Sharif and the Arab-Israeli conflict submitted by the State of Palestine:

Having considered with satisfaction the report of the secretary general on the question of Palestine and al-Quds al-Sharif, and the Arab-Israeli conflict in document no. EOICFM/5-92/dr.2

Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference,

Pursuant to the resolutions of Islamic summit and foreign ministers conferences on the question of Palestine and al-Quds al-Sharif, and the Arab-Israeli conflict,

Considering that Israel's continued occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories, its annexation of al-Quds al-Sharif and the Syrian Golan, its denial of the inalienable national and political rights of the Palestinian people, constitutes a flagrant violation of international legality, the principles of international law, and the UN Charter and relevant UN resolutions,

Recalling the resolutions adopted by the UN General Assembly and the UN Security Council on the situation in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories including al-Quds al-Sharif,

Proceeding from the United Nations resolutions and particularly Security Council resolution 681 which confirms the applicability of all provisions of the fourth Geneva convention on the protection of civilians in time

of war, concluded on 12th August, 1949 to the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 including al-Quds al-Sharif,

Expressing deep concern over the dangerous situation in the Palestinian territories, which results from continued Israeli occupation, arbitrary practices and repressive measures as well as from Israel's continued confiscation of land and properties, establishment of colonialist settlements, escalation of the policy of deportation of Palestinians, destruction of houses, uprooting of trees, imposition of collective punishment on local populations, blockade of Palestinian cities, villages and camps, and desecration of Islamic and Christian holy shrines,

Expressing deep concern over the ongoing transfer of Jews to the occupied territories and their settlement there, and over Israel's continued establishment and expansion of colonialist settlements in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories,

Also expressing deep concern at the continued Israeli acts of aggression on southern Lebanon and affirming that Israeli expansionist policies, practices and designs are not only aimed at the Arab frontline states but also at destabilizing the Islamic countries which constitute a threat to international peace and security [passage as received],

Following with great interest the ongoing peaceful efforts aimed at achieving a just and comprehensive solution of the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli conflict, based on Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, the formula of land for peace and the legitimate and inalienable national and political rights of the Palestinian people,

Stressing the importance of the role of the United Nations in the efforts made to reach a just and comprehensive political settlement of the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

1. Recalls all the resolutions of Islamic conferences relating to the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli conflict, expresses its pride in the blessed Intifada of the Palestinian people, and calls upon all member states to continue to enhance their solidarity with, and support of the just and legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people for putting an end to Israeli occupation and attaining all their objectives of freedom and independence.

2. Reaffirms that the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli conflict are an indivisible whole in terms of treatment and settlement, that the solution cannot be fragmented or made to favour only some parties to the conflict or cover some causes of the conflict, to the exclusion of others, and that peace cannot prevail in the region if it does not involve all parties concerned including the Palestinian party whose cause is the prime cause of all Muslims and the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

3. Reaffirms the legitimacy of the struggle waged by the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, to recover their land and exercise their rights of return, and their rights to self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, on their national soil, with al-Quds al-Sharif as its capital.

4. Affirms that just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East region can only be established through Israeli's total and unconditional withdrawal from all the Palestinian and Arab territories occupied since 1967.

5. Expresses its support for the efforts which led to the convening of the peace conference on the Middle East, in Madrid aimed at finding a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian question and the Arab-Israeli conflict, expresses its regret over Israel's failure to respond to the Palestinian peace initiative which was announced by the Palestine National Council at its 19th session and which represented the genuine Palestinian and Arab desire to bring about a just and comprehensive peace, calls upon the sponsors of the conference to exert their efforts so as to save the ongoing negotiations from failure as a result of Israel's intransigence for such a failure would adversely affect international peace and security, and considers that the success of these negotiations hinges on the fulfillment of the following principles and elements:

First: Their adherence to international legality and UN resolutions including Security Council resolutions 242 and 388 as well as to the international and Arab understanding of the two resolutions which is based on the impermissibility of occupation of other people's territories by force and secures total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories including al-Quds al-Sharif, the Syrian Golan and the occupied Jordanian territories and is also based on the formula of land for peace and on the legitimate national and political rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination as a sine qua non to freedom and national independence.

Second: To reaffirm that occupied al-Quds is an integral part of the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, to which apply the provisions, applicable to all occupied territories, under the resolutions of the UN Security Council and General Assembly and also to reaffirm that al-Quds al-Sharif is the core of the Palestinian question which, in turn, is the crux of the Arab-Israeli conflict and as such cannot be left out of the current peace negotiations.

Third: To halt the establishment of Jewish settlements in the occupied territories including al-Quds al-Sharif, and the Syrian Golan and to provide for international guarantees to that effect and for the dismantling of existing settlements as they are illegal according to the resolutions of international legality, including Security Council resolution 456.

Fourth: To ensure the comprehensibility of the solution so that it may cover all fronts up to the final comprehensive solution, pursuant to the resolutions of international legality, to ensure that any interim arrangements shall include the right of the Palestinian people to establish their control over all their land, water and other natural resources, as well as all political and economic affairs, and solve the Palestinian refugees problem in accordance with UN resolutions, in particular the General Assembly resolution 194 and the Security Council resolution 237.

6. Emphasizes the necessity of ensuring international protection for the Palestinian people in the occupied territories implementing the fourth Geneva convention of 1949 as well as The Hague accord of 1907 and of putting an end to all Israeli terrorist and repressive practices against the Palestinian territories, to the confiscation of Islamic and Christian property and Waqfs and attempts to alter their characteristics, to the continued violation of holy shrines, and to the excavations endangering these sacred monuments.

7. Draws attention of the international public opinion and the Security Council to the danger in Israel's conduct as if it was exempted from abidance by the international law and from adherence to the criteria of international legitimacy and calls upon the international community to force Israel to put an end to its violations, to respect the principles of international legality and to implement the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council without delay.

8. Strongly condemns repressive Israeli practices and measures against the Palestinian population, condemns the blockade imposed by Israeli occupation authorities on the Gaza Strip and other Palestinian cities, and appeals to all states to respond to the request of the UN Secretary General to work for the implementation of UN Security Council resolution 681 calling for a meeting of the major signatories to the fourth Geneva convention of 1949 so as to take the necessary measures to provide international protection for the Palestinian people in the occupied territories.

9. Strongly condemns the Israeli expansionist settlement policy and considers all settlements established or to be established by Israel in al-Quds al-Sharif, in the other occupied Palestinian territories, and in the Syrian Golan invalid by the standards of international legality. It appeals to all states to refrain from taking any measures aimed at facilitating settlement operations in the occupied territories.

10. Calls on all states, throughout the world, to refrain from dealing with Israeli occupation authorities in a way that may be construed by them as a tacit recognition of the de facto situation imposed by Israel when it declared al-Quds its capital. It recalls in this respect UN Security Council resolutions 465, 476 and 478 nulling [as received] Israel measures pertaining to al-Quds al-Sharif. It affirms that all legislative, administrative and

settlement measures aimed at changing the legal status of the holy city are null and void, have no legal implications whatsoever, and are contrary to the international conventions, charters and norms.

11. Strongly condemns the policy of immigration and settlement of Jews in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including al-Quds al-Sharif and the Syrian Golan, dating back from 1967.

12. Strongly condemns the continued Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon, Israel's continued aggression and its repressive military action against the Lebanese population and Palestinian refugees in Lebanon. It requests the UN Security Council to put an immediate end to these aggressions and demands immediate, total and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from the Lebanese territory, it reaffirms its commitment to the independence, sovereignty and integrity of Lebanon within its internationally recognized borders. It also stresses the need for implementing UN Security Council resolutions on Lebanon, especially resolution 425 (1987). It expresses its appreciation of the accomplishments of the supreme tripartite Arab committee and calls on the international community to contribute to the International Fund for the Reconstruction of Lebanon.

13. Strongly condemns Israel for its policy of non-compliance with Security Council resolution 497 (1981), for imposing its jurisdiction, laws and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan for pursuing policies and practices of annexation, of establishing settlements, confiscating land, diverting water resources and imposing Israeli nationality on Syrian citizens, and considers all these measures as null and void, and a violation of the rules and principles of international law on occupation and war, especially the fourth Geneva convention of 1949.

14. Requests the secretary general to take the necessary measures to continue and strengthen contacts and coordination between the OIC, and the League of Arab States, the Organization of African Unity, the Non-aligned Movement, and the UN and its specialized agencies, on the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

15. Calls on the international community to put pressure on Israel to implement the relevant resolutions of the UN and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) which will call for placing all nuclear installations under IAEA system of safeguards and to respond to current efforts and initiatives aimed at creating a nuclear weapon and mass-destruction weapon-free zone in the Middle East region. It calls upon member states to continue their cooperation within the framework of the UN, the IAEA and related international fora with the aim of ensuring Israel's compliance with international resolutions, subjection of all its nuclear facilities to international inspection and presentation of a full report on its stockpile of nuclear materials to the Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

16. Commends the continued efforts of al-Quds Committee under the chairmanship of His Majesty King Hassan II, sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco, and reaffirms all the recommendations made by the fourteenth session of the committee.

17. Calls upon member states to honor their commitment to cover the approved budgets of all al-Quds funds and its Waqf set at one hundred million dollars each, and also calls on member states to pay their contributions and to continue the campaign for the collection of donations at both popular and official levels in favor of al-Quds funds and Waqf.

18. Expresses its appreciation to the states of European Community, China, Japan, the Vatican City, the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, the Organization of African Unity, the UN Committee for Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, and all the peoples and peace-loving forces for their support of the Palestinian cause in the international fora and their assistance to the struggle of the Palestinian people and their blessed Intifadah.

19. Requests the secretary general to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the next summit conference.

Iraqi Solidarity Noted

JN1906184692 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1809 GMT
19 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Istanbul, 19 Jun (INA)—Iraq stressed its solidarity with and sympathy for the Muslim people in Yugoslavia as well as its opposition to using force to kill and displace them. Iraq also called for the unity of the Muslims and its solidarity with them. This came in a speech delivered by the head of the Iraqi delegation at the extraordinary session of the foreign ministers of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO], which ended in Istanbul yesterday.

Rafi' Dahham, Iraq's ambassador to Turkey and head of the Iraqi delegation, said that America, which created the tragedies of the Muslims in Palestine and southern Lebanon and which has always provided the Zionist enemy with all means of aggression to entrench the occupation, continues to dismember the Muslims and deepen the fragmentation and backwardness among them.

Iraq's representative stressed the need for resorting to justice and avoiding double standards, affirming that this is the only method to achieve the principles of the ICO.

Iraq also asserted its government's and people's solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people and with its jihad against the usurper Zionist enemy. [passage omitted]

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Chairs Meeting on PNC Affairs

JN2206061392 Amman Radio Jordan Network
in Arabic 0400 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat chaired a PLO Executive Committee meeting in Amman last night. His Eminence Shaykh 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, speaker of the Palestine National Council [PNC], the two PNC deputy speakers, and the PNC secretary general attended. The purpose of the meeting was to elect the PNC's main committees with a view to reorganizing the Council's affairs and implementing its decisions.

Shaykh al-Sa'ih said that the PNC leadership previously sought the opinion of all members of the PNC committees through which they conduct their work. The PLO Executive Committee and the PNC leadership will study these opinions and select 100 PNC members for membership of the 10 committees that will be formed.

Al-Sa'ih added that after they are officially announced, the members of these committees will elect a chairman and rapporteur for each committee in internal elections to be held at a later time. He emphasized that the situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip calls for optimism rather than pessimism. He urged the Arab nation to support the intifadah so that it will remain a landmark in Palestinian struggle.

'Arafat Letter to Israeli Candidate Denied

JN2106165392 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] A responsible PLO source affirmed that reports carried by news agencies about a letter from brother Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, to brother Muhammad al-Mi'ari [candidate for Israeli Knesset elections], regarding the Israeli elections, are baseless.

The source asserted that brother Abu-'Ammar has not sent any letter [words indistinct] such letters or to interfere in the Israeli elections from near or far.

Higher Palestinian Committee Resumes Meetings

Peace Process Assessed

JN1906165692 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic
1500 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] The higher Palestinian committee supervising the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations resumed its meetings at noon today under the chairmanship of Mahmud 'Abbas, member of the PLO Executive Committee.

A responsible Palestinian source stated that in its second meeting, the higher committee resumed assessing the peace process, the accomplishments achieved on the

Palestinian level, and the Israeli reactions to the clear Palestinian position presented during the bilateral and multilateral negotiations. It was also decided that Israel should respect UN resolutions; implement international legitimacy; recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people; and link any progress in the multilateral negotiations to the achievement of progress in the bilateral negotiations.

The source added that the higher committee seeks to solidify a plan of action for the upcoming negotiating session on the bilateral and multilateral levels that would secure Palestinian ambitions and hopes within the framework of implementing the UN resolutions.

The higher Palestinian committee supervising the negotiations includes a number of PLO Executive Committee members and high-ranking PLO officials, in addition to the chief of the steering committee, the Palestinian delegation to the negotiations, the chief negotiating delegate, and a number of Palestinian delegates to the bilateral and multilateral negotiations.

Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat chaired the first higher committee meeting yesterday evening. He will later participate in the higher committee's meetings after solidifying integrated Palestinian negotiation plans for the upcoming stage.

'Abd-al-Shafi on Working Teams

JN2106070592 Amman Jordan Television Network
in Arabic 2000 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] The higher Palestinian committee supervising the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations resumed its meetings in Amman today. In an exclusive statement to the JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY, Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian delegation to the negotiations, said: The committee has formed four working teams. The first team is in charge of the bilateral talks; the second is in charge of the multilateral talks; the third is in charge of the advisory committee of the negotiating delegations; and the fourth is in charge of administrative affairs concerning the negotiations.

'Abd-al-Shafi stated that the four working teams will work within a single framework, namely, preparing a Palestinian strategy for the coming stage of the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations. He added that this strategy is based on implementing international resolutions and achieving the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, through linking the bilateral talks with the multilateral talks, to achieve Palestinian aspirations and ambitions in accordance with international legitimacy.

Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi added: The issue of holding general political elections in the occupied territory is part of the work of these teams. These elections would lead to forming a Palestinian legislative council [majlis tashri'i filastini], from which a Palestinian government would emanate, he stated.

Israelis Threaten Arrest

JN1906124592 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1200 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Kanda Habib dispatch from Amman]

[Text] Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks, protested against and condemned Israeli Police Minister Roni Milo's announcement of Tel Aviv's intention to arrest the members of the Palestinian delegation who met yesterday—for the first time in public—with the PLO leadership.

In statements to our radio, 'Abd-al-Shafi stated that the Palestinian delegation certainly will return to the occupied territories despite the Israeli decision. He pointed out that the Palestinians consider themselves committed to the peace process, stressing that their presence in Amman falls within the context of that commitment. He stated: Israel can do whatever it wants.

He stated that the police minister's decision is unacceptable and offensive, given that the meeting with Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat comes within a normal humanitarian framework following 'Arafat's discharge, in good health, from the hospital. In that regard, 'Abd-al-Shafi stated that it is inconceivable to deprive someone of his natural feelings; the Palestinian masses belong to, and are linked with, the PLO leadership.

Finally, 'Abd-al-Shafi stated that he will leave for New York tomorrow, responding to a UN invitation. He will return to the Gaza Strip on 3 or 4 July.

'Ashrawi Comments on Arrest Threat

JN1906185292 Amman Jordan Television Network
in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] Commenting about the Israeli police minister's decision to arrest her upon her return to the occupied territories, Palestinian negotiating delegation spokeswoman Hanan 'Ashrawi said that this issue violates international law and that Israel has no right to ban the Palestinian people from meeting their political leadership.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reported] Dr. Hanan, what is your comment about the Israeli police minister's decision to arrest you and Fayçal al-Husayni?

['Ashrawi] In fact there is no reason for this prosecution because first we believe that Israeli law is unjust. It is applied to the Israelis and not the Palestinians. It is a nondemocratic law and is not compatible with reality, human rights, and the rights of the Israeli people.

But we should also remind the Israeli Government that we are Palestinians and not Israelis. First, this fact should be understood and recognized. Second, no authority, government, or people can prevent the Palestinian people or any other people from meeting their political leadership or prosecute them because they met

their political leadership. This shows that the Israeli position lacks content, credibility, a legal background, and legitimacy.

Therefore, it is clear to all that this decision is a political decision and not a legal one. It violates Palestinian rights and strikes at the heart of the peace process. [end recording]

'Arafat Adviser Cites 'Amazement'

LD2006085492 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio
Network in Arabic 0600 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Excerpts] Yesterday Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said there will be law suits filed against Faysal al-Husayni and Hanan 'Ashrawi because they publicly met with Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat. [passage omitted]

Israeli Police Minister Roni Milo announced earlier that both Palestinian personalities would be detained on their return from Jordan because they met 'Arafat publicly for the first time the day before yesterday in Amman. [passage omitted]

Bassam Abu-Sharif, adviser to Yasir 'Arafat, cited his amazement at Milo's announcement. In a statement yesterday in Tunis, he said that the reaction clearly indicated that the Israeli Government—particularly Shamir—was trying to place obstacles to the peace process. [passage omitted]

Reaction to Meeting, Arrest Threats

JN2006101692 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 20 Jun 92
pp 1, 22

[Excerpts] The higher Palestinian committee supervising the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations resumed its meetings at noon yesterday under the chairmanship of Mahmud 'Abbas, member of the PLO Executive Committee. [passage omitted]

Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat chaired the first committee meeting held last Thursday evening. He will participate in the committee's later meetings after integrated Palestinian negotiation plans for the next stage have been solidified.

Responsible Palestinian sources told AL-RA'Y that four working committees were formed yesterday for this purpose. These are: a bilateral talks committee, headed by Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi; a multilateral talks committee; a committee assigned to study administrative and organizational issues; and an information committee.

The sources predicted that meetings of these committees will culminate in official Jordanian-Palestinian meetings, which fall within the framework of sessions by the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. This in turn will be followed by a high-ranking final meeting.

The Palestinian president's meeting with the Palestinian negotiating delegation has triggered an extensive controversy within Israel. Israeli Police Affairs Minister Roni Milo announced that the Palestinian leaders who met with the PLO chairman in Amman last Thursday will be arrested upon their return to the occupied territories. [passage omitted]

In a statement to AL-RA'Y, Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi ridiculed the Israeli minister's decision. She said: We want to remind the Israeli officials that we are not Israeli citizens. She added: We are Palestinians. No people in the world can be prevented from meeting with their leadership.

She noted that the Israeli decision shows how silly the Israeli officials are and how they lack a convincing argument. They only seek whatever they can find to obstruct the peace process and to suppress the Palestinian people.

In response to an AL-RA'Y question, she said that Palestinian-U.S. dialogue has never stopped, although it may be rather indirect between the PLO and the U.S. Administration. She stated that ending suspension of U.S.-Palestinian dialogue is a U.S. decision and one repeatedly called for by the PLO.

In a statement to AL-RA'Y, Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian delegation, commented about the decision against the Palestinian delegation members by the Israeli minister of police affairs. He said: Everyone knows the Palestinian people's allegiance to the PLO. This is something that is clear and beyond any doubt. [passage omitted]

In a statement to AL-RA'Y, Dr. Zakariya al-Agha, member of the Palestinian delegation, described the Israeli minister's decision as electoral propaganda. He expressed regret that humanitarian issues are being used for electoral purposes. The Israeli Government, he added, is burying its head in the sand.

He stated: Yes, we met with the president of the state of Palestine. We congratulated him about his safety following his recent surgery. I believe that it is the right of the Palestinian delegation to meet with whomever it deems appropriate for facilitating its task, whether the one being met is a Palestinian, an Arab, a European, an American, or any other nationality. [passage omitted]

Commenting about the Israeli minister's decision in a statement to AL-RA'Y, Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, member of the PLO Executive Committee and head of the PLO Information Department, said: This position contradicts the principles of negotiation agreed upon prior to Madrid [peace conference]. Nothing in these principles prevents any member of the Palestinian delegation from meeting with any party he wants, including the PLO leadership.

'Abd-Rabbuh rejected transforming this question from a political case to a criminal one. This meeting, he stressed, was not for propaganda purposes. [passage omitted]

In a statement to AL-RA'Y, Taysir Khalid, member of the PLO Executive Committee and the representative of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine on the committee, described the open meeting between the Palestinian delegation and the Executive Committee as a step toward correcting the current course of the political process. He said that the meeting is in line with the recent resolutions of the PLO Central Council.

Khalid stressed the importance of the Palestinian delegation's announcement at the negotiating table that it represents the Palestinian people and that the PLO is its political reference, the same as applies to the governments and delegations participating in the peace process.

He added: I do not expect anything essential either before or after the Israeli elections, or even the U.S. elections. It is a mistake for some people to spread illusions among the Palestinian people that we are close to holding legislative elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

'Abd-al-Rahim Malluh, member of the PLO Executive Committee and the representative of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine on the committee, praised the meeting between the Palestinian delegation and president 'Arafat. In a statement to AL- RA'Y, he described the meeting as a healthy step and an emphasis on the linkage between those inside and outside of the occupied territories, especially since there have been several attempts made to separate the delegation from the PLO and those inside from those outside. He demanded that, at the negotiating table with all parties present, the delegation officially announce through its head and its steering committee that it is an inseparable part of the PLO.

'Ashrawi, U.S. Envoy View 'Controversy'

JN2106073292 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
21 Jun 92 pp 1,5

[Report by JORDAN TIMES staff reporter with agency dispatches]

[Text] Amman—Palestinian negotiators Saturday [18 June] continued discussions on the Middle East peace process with little outward sign of worries over a furore in Israel over Thursday's publicised meeting between the Palestinian negotiators and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and other PLO leaders.

Palestinian spokeswoman Hanan 'Ashrawi, one of the Palestinians who Israel says will be arrested upon their return to the occupied territories, was quoted as saying

that she discussed the controversy with the American ambassador to Jordan, Roger Harrison, in a meeting Friday night.

During the talks, Mr. Harrison relayed Washington's "concerns and we explained the Palestinian position" regarding the public contacts between the delegates and the PLO, contacts with which are banned and punishable under Israeli law. Dr. 'Ashrawi was quoted as saying by the Associated Press.

The Palestinians say that the law does not apply to them since they are not Israeli citizens. In any event, Dr. 'Ashrawi said Friday, the Israeli leadership would be better off focusing on more important issues related to the peace process than trying to punish the Palestinian negotiators.

Dr. 'Ashrawi described her talks with Ambassador Harrison as "extremely frank and friendly," and said: "I think that we resolved the issue... of the public meetings with the Palestinian leadership and the president (of Palestine, Mr. 'Arafat)," the AP reported.

She said she thought the American position was "quite restrained, quite reasonable and well thought out."

"They relayed to us their concerns and we explained our point of view—that we don't think this (meeting) was a provocation on our part and we think this supports the peace process," Dr. 'Ashrawi was quoted as saying by Reuters.

Nabil Sha'th, a senior political advisor to Mr. 'Arafat, said the U.S. insistence on excluding the PLO from the negotiating session ignored reality and the meeting did not violate the spirit of the peace process.

"The PLO is the legitimate leadership of the Palestinian people and nothing happens at the negotiating table or any other table without that legitimacy," Mr. Sha'th told reporters.

"I think that the PLO has proven to the United States and everyone else its responsibility, flexibility and commitment to the peace process," said Mr. Sha'th.

"The PLO has benefited and advanced the peace process and has been able to protect the Palestinian delegation and to give it its proper legitimacy and, that, I think is what we should be concerned with rather than the charade about who meets whom at what time," he said. [passage omitted]

Meeting Said To Be 'Intentional'

JN2106095692 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 21 Jun 92
pp 1, 26

[Excerpt] Amman—AL-RA'Y: Capitals—Agencies—A well-informed Palestinian source in Amman learned yesterday that the open Amman meeting with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat by Palestinian officials and members of the Palestinian delegation to the peace negotiations with Israel was "intentional."

The meetings of the delegation members with PLO officials continued in Amman yesterday, despite the Israeli threats to arrest them on their return to the occupied territories.

The same source said that the meeting with 'Arafat had two objectives: namely, reinforcing the credibility of the members of the Palestinian delegation in the occupied territories and embarrassing Israeli officials four days before the Israeli legislative elections.

In a statement to AL-RA'Y yesterday, Hanan 'Ashrawi, spokeswoman for the Palestinian delegation to the Middle East peace negotiations, said that four working teams have been formed, consisting of Palestinian delegation members and PLO officials, to discuss "specific" issues related to the peace process and the situation in the occupied territories.

'Ashrawi said: We need more time to prepare and to evaluate the five rounds and the multilateral talks. We also need time to coordinate with the Jordanian delegation. We will return to our homeland once we have done all this.

A well-informed Palestinian source in Amman said that the credibility of the Palestinian delegation members among the inhabitants of the occupied territories was harmed after nine months of Arab-Israeli negotiations that did not achieve any tangible progress.

He added that some delegation members received assassination threats from extremist Palestinian groups.

The same source said that the delegation's appearance alongside PLO officials in meetings on the peace process gives them a cover and support in the territories for resuming the peace process. It also affirms the coordination between the delegation members and the PLO in this regard. Until now, this coordination has been taking place in secret. [passage omitted]

'Ashrawi on Israeli Elections

JN2106203992 Amman Jordan Television Network
in English 1900 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Interview with Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi, spokeswoman for the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks, by Murid Hammad in the studio—live]

[Text] [Hammad] Dr. 'Ashrawi, we've listened to the Israeli statements. Yesterday we heard that they want to arrest you as soon as you enter the occupied territories and prosecute you. Today, we are listening to a different tone. Is that a change of the Israeli position, do you think?

['Ashrawi] Well, it sounds like some sort of a retraction or revocation of an earlier position. They are trying to find a way out, it seems to me, because they got themselves into hot water. And even many of the statements are untrue and illegal, because we are not residents of Israel. We are Palestinians in occupied Palestinian territory, and we are not Israelis subject to Israeli law. We are

again Palestinians, and we are covered by the Fourth Geneva Convention. So I think their attempts at imposing the Israeli law on us, or their attempts at changing our status unilaterally, will not work. Also, the fact is that they discovered that such a position will not find any international support and actually will not find any Israeli support. The Israelis themselves do not accept this law that they feel is undemocratic, unjust, restricts their freedom of movement and communication, thought, speech, and expression. So, I do think that they find themselves in an untenable situation, a situation that makes them look transparently, I would say, ridiculous in public opinion and irresponsible. And it would be a direct blow to the peace process, in addition to striking against Palestinian rights.

[Hammad] Israeli political analyst yesterday was saying that Shamir was in a dilemma. If he arrests you, the Americans will intervene and say, you know, what are you doing? And if he doesn't arrest you, he would be sending votes to Rabin. Do you think that the election campaign now is playing a big role in what is happening regarding the Palestinian delegation?

['Ashrawi] Well, for a long time the elections campaign and narrow party politics and self-interests have dominated Israeli politics and have actually imposed themselves on the peace process. So I am not surprised. I mean, the decision to arrest us or not to arrest us would be a political decision, and I think the elections constitute a major factor as to whether they will or not. If they do arrest us, of course, it would make them look ridiculous, internationally, and striking a real blow against the peace process and interfering and imposing the politics of domination and power on the Palestinian delegation. And at the same time, if they do not arrest us, they are admitting and confessing that the law that they claim they should apply to us is untenable and should not be applied. And I think the image of the Israeli Government at this stage is what concerns them most, and it certainly is not a very attractive image either way.

[Hammad] Very briefly Dr. 'Ashrawi, when the Israeli campaign got started a few days ago, or shall I say more than week ago actually, the major theme was cracking on the Palestinians. Everybody, every party in Israel, was racing in an effort to crack on the Palestinians, and even Labor which was thought to have taken a more pro-Palestinian, or let's say pro-peace stand, was competing with Shamir's Likud on cracking on Palestinians. How do you explain that? Is that just with the world? Is the world accepting that?

['Ashrawi] No, it seems to me they are addressing a hardline constituency. They are trying; they are vying with each other to win a constituency that they think is undecided, which is to the right, I mean in between, in the crack, in between Labor and right of Labor, and left of Likud. I mean, it is hard to use these labels. I don't think they do apply very easily. But there is a certain amount of constituency through which they are trying to get votes and at the same time they are trying to get their credentials. Unfortunately, the whole course of Israeli

politics has legitimized violence and domination, has legitimized brutality and coercion. Rabin got his credentials by being brutal and oppressive against the Palestinians. So there is a competition for brutality here, for hardline politics. They are trying to get credentials by saying I can be just as cruel and just as oppressive as the next guy; therefore, vote for me. And it seems to me these are not just immoral positions on which to base political campaigns, but they are extremely counterproductive. And it seems to me that they are really damaging the moral fiber of Israel, and they are damaging a whole democratic process.

[Hamad] Very quickly, Dr. 'Ashrawi, do you think you will be arrested when you go back to the occupied territories?

['Ashrawi] I certainly don't know. I think that all Palestinians are subject to arbitrary arrest at any time; whether we met or didn't meet; whether we are delegate members or not. The occupation in itself is illegal and all its measures are unjust. And I think since all the Palestinian people have been subjected to harassment and most of them to arbitrary arrest without cause, we never rule out that possibility.

Arrest Threat Retracted

JN2106190992 Amman Jordan Television Network
in Arabic 1700 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Excerpts] Two days before the Israeli elections, the occupation authorities retracted their decision to arrest members of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Television announcer Ghalib al-Hadidi] Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi, member of the Palestinian delegation to the peace negotiations and the delegation's official spokeswoman, is with us in the news studio. Welcome, Dr. Hanan.

['Ashrawi] Welcome.

[Al-Hadidi] Dr. Hanan, you heard the previous report. In your view, why has Shamir's government retracted its position?

['Ashrawi] This retraction in fact reflects, in the first place, the weakness of the Israeli position, a position that lacks any legal or reasonable basis to justify it. Second, it shows the weak Israeli position in dealing with Palestinian rights and Israel's interference in internal Palestinian affairs. This position constitutes a blow to the political process. It is an attempt to abort this process by dictating or imposing the unjust laws it applies on the Israeli side and to exploit its position as an occupier state on a people under occupation.

It also shows the degree to which the international community is dissatisfied with this position. Most countries in the world, except Israel, recognize the PLO's legitimate leadership of the Palestinian people. Israel alone cannot dictate what it wants on the world and on the Palestinians. Therefore, international interference and pressure have had a positive effect. Israeli public

opinion, as well as the Palestinian position, have also had an effect. But I think that the circumstances of the elections in Israel do not allow for taking such positions. Any position, whether in the form of arrest or not, can influence the elections. We have seen that Israel, and all the steps it takes, are not based on morals or law but on special considerations that pertain to gains in the elections.

[Al-Hadidi] Dr. Hanan, various media organizations quoted a Palestinian source, whom they did not specify, as saying that the meeting of the Palestinian delegation to the peace negotiations with his excellency president 'Arafat came about as a result of threats from the opposition. Is this true?

['Ashrawi] In fact, I do not know who that Palestinian source is, but I want to clarify, on behalf of all the members of the delegation, that none of us has received any threat from any Palestinian source whether opposition or not. This has never taken place since the start of the political process. On the contrary, there have been moral and democratic relations. There have been dialogues with the opposition and others on the process in an effort to analyze it, to discuss how to advance it, and to discuss how to express the opposite viewpoint. All this has taken place within democratic values in the Palestinian arena. None of us has received any threat at any time. Therefore, I want to make it clear that inter-Palestinian relations are good and constructive. The only danger posed for the members of the Palestinian delegation, as well as the rest of the Palestinian people, is the occupation and Israeli extremism, particularly that of the Israeli settlers. [end recording]

'Ashrawi on Resuming Talks With U.S.

JN2206065192 Amman Radio Jordan Network
in Arabic 0400 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi, official spokeswoman for the Palestinian negotiating delegation, stated that she, along with members of the Palestinian delegations to the bilateral and multilateral negotiations, will return to the occupied territories at the end of this week despite the Israeli threats to interrogate them.

Speaking at a news conference in Amman last night, she said that a Jordanian-Palestinian meeting to coordinate the positions of both the Jordanian and Palestinian delegations will be held at the Jordanian Foreign Ministry today.

'Ashrawi stressed the PLO's readiness to resume dialogue with Washington, emphasizing that the U.S. Government has suspended, not stopped, the dialogue.

She added that the Palestinians have the right to hold political elections in the occupied territories to elect a legislative council from which a Palestinian government would emanate according to the letter of invitation to the peace conference. Although she ruled out the possibility of holding elections unilaterally, she stated that the

Palestinians will mobilize world support for their cause and for holding political elections under international supervision.

'Ashrawi hoped that the peace process would be accelerated in the next stage, particularly following the Israeli elections. She stressed Palestinian seriousness toward accelerating the peace process in accordance with the original timetable that Israel seeks to obstruct.

Spokeswoman on 'Israeli Peace Government'

JN1906180692 Amman Jordan Television Network
in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] Palestinian spokeswoman Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi stated that the Palestinian people are concerned with the peace process and want to see an Israeli peace government that deals seriously with this process. In an interview with Australian television, 'Ashrawi said:

[Begin recording, in English with Arabic subtitles] ['Ashrawi, in progress] ...under occupation. We have been on the receiving end of whatever policies that the Israeli Government decides, although we do not vote, and we do not choose the Israeli Government. We are a people under occupation who have to, in a way, deal with the policies that the government takes. This is particularly important due to the peace process, because we are involved in a process and we want to make sure that there is an Israeli Government that is a peace government and that will deal with the peace process seriously and take the necessary mature and brave positions pertaining to the peace process and the negotiations. We are following them closely, yes. That is why we think that Israel does need, in essence, a strong government with a vision, with genuine commitment to peace that is capable of taking such historical decisions and that will reflect a constituency for peace, which we are sure exists in the Israeli public.

[Unidentified reporter] It sounds as though from what you are saying, doctor, what you have been saying throughout this entire interview, that you don't really expect that to happen. From the Palestinian point of view, you don't appear to trust Labor and their promises. You think that the whole process will be a write-off under Shamir, whether it's a Likud- or a Labor-dominated coalition, or a national unity government. It looks like the whole thing is in jeopardy.

['Ashrawi] Well, I certainly don't want to be the prophet, prophetic of doom. But, the peace process has had enough difficulties as it is and enough obstacles placed in its path by Israel. Fortunately, the day in which Israel unilaterally decides the course of events in the whole region, the day in which the tail wags the dog internationally, is over. We do have a peace process that has terms of reference. We do have an international community that has its own clear will and decisionmaking apparatus. We do have international law. We do have recognized international humanitarian rights, which are the principles and the legal bases that we draw upon. We

think that Israel has to be placed within an international system of accountability and treated as a state among states, as an equal, not as a country above the law. That is why, left to Israel entirely, the peace process would not have started anyway. You must remember we entered the peace process with the most hard line racist government in the history of Israel. And yet we did enter, because we knew that it must not be left hostage to Israel; that we have to rescue the peace process and place it within a framework and a context that would render it effective and that would give it, let's say, legitimacy and that would place it on the correct course towards genuine achievements. So, we are trying to place it within a larger context. And you cannot say that the Israeli elections are the only determining factor. They are one factor, and there are many other factors. There are Arab realities. There is Palestinian, intrinsic Palestinian reality within international rights and international law. And, of course, there is the international community, and there is the need of the sponsoring countries. So, all these have to be factored in. [end recording]

Congress to Discuss 'National Charter of Honor'

LD2006153492 Rabat MAP in English 1257 GMT
20 Jun 92

[Text] Tunis, June 20 (MAP)—A Palestinian Congress might be held by the end of the current month in occupied al-Quds [Jerusalem] to examine and adopt "a national charter of honor", a Palestinian official told Tunisian daily "AS-SABAH".

The official, who declined to be named, said the meeting will be attended by all Palestinian political trends, national institutions, professional associations and political figures.

It is most urgent, he said, to adopt such a charter to put an end to any excess and remedy to the weak points of the intifada that are exploited by Israel.

The Palestinian Central Council, which convened its latest session in Tunis in May, set up a drafting committee of the charter that will determine the criteria that will make the intifada recover its popular character.

'Crisis' in Relations With France Denied

NC1906113992 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1053 GMT
19 Jun 92

[Text] Tunis, 19 Jun (MENA)—Hakam Bal'awi, Fatah Central Committee member and PLO representative in Tunis, denied any crisis in French-Palestinian relations as a result of the assassination in Paris on 8 June of martyr 'Atif Busaysu, deputy commissioner of the Palestinian security agency.

Certain Western media noted the existence of a crisis due to the French security authorities' failure to provide protection for martyr Busaysu while he was in Paris.

22 June 1992

In a statement to a MENA correspondent, Bal'awi asserted that French President Francois Mitterrand is personally interested in following up the investigations into Busaysu's assassination.

On Tuesday, Bal'awi visited Paris, where he held talks with Mr. Maurel, adviser to the French president [name

and title as received], with French Foreign Ministry officials attending. They reviewed the bilateral and multilateral aspects of the peace process. The Palestinian official's talks also dealt with the need to deter the official and organized Israeli terrorism against the Palestinian people both at home and abroad represented by the imposition of a tight blockade on the Gaza Strip.

Egypt

Developments in Writer's Assassination Case

Alleged Planner Interviewed

NC1906141592 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic
17 Jun 92 pp 1, 4

[Interview with Safwat 'Abd-al-Ghani, alleged commander of al-Jihad Organization's military wing, by Tharwat Shalabi in the main court room in Madinat Nasr on 15 June]

[Text] [Shalabi] You are being accused of planning Dr. Faraj Fudah's assassination from behind bars and of inciting the defendants to execute the plan.

['Abd-al-Ghani] I deny this categorically. Security officials and the state security investigation bureau have found no physical or circumstantial evidence to substantiate my being accused of assassinating former People's Assembly Speaker Dr. Rif'at al-Mahjub. They thought of framing me for Faraj Fudah's assassination, but I am behind bars and under maximum security in Turah prison.

If the defendant accused in the Faraj Fudah case has incriminated me in his confession, most probably the confession was made under pressure and coercion.

[Shalabi] Isn't a lawyer called Mansur being accused of acting as liaison between you and the defendants?

['Abd-al-Ghani] The security organizations wanted to accuse a member of the defense panel in al-Mahjub's case so that they could trap him into false accusations and eventually make him chicken out of defending us. Islamic lawyers defend us voluntarily.

[Shalabi] Do you know the accused lawyer, Mansur, personally?

['Abd-al-Ghani] Yes, I know him.

[Shalabi] What is his full name?

['Abd-al-Ghani] All I know is that his name is Mansur, the lawyer.

[Shalabi] Is he here with us in this courtroom?

['Abd-al-Ghani] No.

[Shalabi] Has he been arrested?

['Abd-al-Ghani] I do not know.

[Shalabi] Do you know 'Abd-al-Shafi Ahmad Ramadan—in custody—and the fugitive Ashraf Sayyid Ibrahim, who are accused of assassinating Dr. Faraj Fudah? And have you entrusted the fugitive criminal with leading the organization during your stay in prison?

['Abd-al-Ghani] Yes, I know them well; they are members in our organization. I did not entrust the leadership to Ashraf Sayyid Ibrahim; he is an ordinary member.

[Shalabi] Didn't you order them to assassinate Faraj Fudah?

['Abd-al-Ghani] No.

[Shalabi] Didn't you incite them to assassinate Fudah?

['Abd-al-Ghani] No.

[Shalabi] As a Muslim, what do you think of Fudah's assassination?

['Abd-al-Ghani] Faraj Fudah was an infidel. Prominent Muslim scholars, like Shaykh 'Atiyah Saqr, accused him of atheism, because he always attacked and ridiculed Islam and Muslims. He was a secular atheist who should have been killed.

[Shalabi] Are you or your organization authorized to accuse a Muslim of atheism, take vengeance on him, or liquidate him without trial and without seeking advice from Muslim guardians, rulers, or the legitimate state authorities, including the judiciary and al-Azhar jurisprudence?

['Abd-al-Ghani] A Muslim is authorized to take vengeance on an atheist Muslim without referring to the ruler, especially since the ruler does not rule with God's laws. You can only rule by referring to God and his Sharia.

[Shalabi] Why did you not speak to Faraj Fudah rather than use bullets, because he did, after all, take part along with other personalities in the religious debate held during the recent state fair?

['Abd-al-Ghani] Faraj Fudah was an atheist, with whom dialogue didn't work. He should have been killed for insulting Islam. He did not attack us with his pen, rather with a mortar pointed at our chests. Some of the brothers believed it was necessary to get rid of him.

[Shalabi] Why do you accuse Faraj Fudah of atheism?

['Abd-al-Ghani] Faraj Fudah did not fight Islam only in Egypt; he fought it outside Egypt. He told AL-SUDAN AL-HURR magazine that he supported Garang in all his acts in Sudan. In his articles and at seminars, he called for leaving Egypt's borders with Israel wide open.

[Shalabi] Was he a target for you because you accused him and others of attacking you?

['Abd-al-Ghani] Yes.

[Shalabi] Was his being accused of atheism sufficient reason to shed his blood and liquidate him?

['Abd-al-Ghani] Yes.

[Shalabi] Did you, as has been said, threaten to assassinate the republic's president and senior officials and authors?

['Abd-al-Ghani] Yes.

[Shalabi] Why?

['Abd-al-Ghani] Because they torture and humiliate us in prison and the interior minister liquidates our organization's members. The ruler's violence is being reciprocated by "fiercer violence" on our part.

[Shalabi] But Faraj Fudah was an author who had nothing to do with what you are saying.

['Abd-al-Ghani] Faraj Fudah submitted a paper to the Arab Interior Ministry when Zaki Badr was interior minister, demanding that they liquidate the members of

Islamic groups in Arab states, because they posed a serious threat to Arab rulers.

[Shalabi] Does this mean there is coordination between your organization here in Egypt and the members of Islamic groups in the Arab states?

['Abd-al-Ghani] Yes, there is coordination between us and the Islamic groups in Sudan, Tunisia, Algeria, and other Muslim states, like Afghanistan.

[Shalabi] What are your common objectives?

['Abd-al-Ghani] Our goal is to preserve Islam; to attack anyone who attacks Islam or ridicules Muslims; to establish the authority of the Muslim state; and to enforce God's law.

[Shalabi] Egyptian Islamic groups' members reportedly returned from Afghanistan after the end of the war there with the Kabul regime, did they not?

['Abd-al-Ghani] Yes. The return of our brothers who had travelled to Afghanistan to back their brothers there will provide us with a strike force in our confrontation with the authorities in Egypt.

Two Lawyers Arrested

NC1906140592 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic
17 Jun 92 p 1

[Text] An AL-AHRAM correspondent has learned that the State Security Intelligence Service yesterday arrested Mansur Ahmad Mansur, a lawyer, in connection with Dr. Faraj Fudah's assassination.

'Abd-al-Shafi Ahmad Ramadan, a suspect in the killing who is in police custody, told investigators that Safwat 'Abd-al-Ghani [alleged leader of the underground al-Jihad Organization's military wing currently on trial in connection with another murder] planned Fudah's assassination and that Mansur, who frequently visited 'Abd-al-Ghani in prison, conveyed the plan to the assassins.

Our correspondent learned that another lawyer, in whose apartment Mansur was hiding, was also arrested.

Yasir 'Arafat To Visit in 'Next Few Days'

NC2106105792 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0959 GMT
21 Jun 92

[Text] Tunis, 21 Jun (MENA)—Bassam Abu-Sharif, Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat's media adviser, stated that 'Arafat will visit Egypt in the next few days and that it will be the first country he has visited since doctors permitted him to travel by plane. In a statement to MENA, he said that 'Arafat is in good health, that he has been performing his duties for several days and running Palestinian institutions from Amman, and is recovering quickly. 'Arafat underwent surgery in early June to remove a blood clot in his brain after his plane crash-landed in Libya in early April.

Daily Criticizes U.S. Supreme Court Decision

NC2006160092 Cairo AL-AHRAM AL-MASA'I
in Arabic 16 Jun 92 p 2

[Unattributed editorial: "The Hostages File, Closed by the Arabs; Will America Open It?"]

[Text] Releasing the last Western hostages in Lebanon is a good and encouraging sign. With the release of the two German hostages, the hostage file, which was opened in July 1982, has been closed.

This event will lead to many positive repercussions, not all of which will involve only Lebanon. With the end of the hostage saga, Western investment in Lebanon and assistance to that country are expected to grow. Fifteen years of civil war have seriously damaged the nation's economy. Additionally, the end of the hostage crisis will have positive repercussions on regional and international peace.

Closing the hostage file demonstrates the goodwill of the Arab and Muslim parties and their eagerness to improve their image, which has been tarnished despite the fact that non-Arab people have encouraged and participated in similar acts.

The move also is firm evidence that the Arab and Islamic parties are turning their backs on certain practices that have damaged Arab and Islamic issues.

It is unfortunate, however, that when Arab parties are making such inroads, we find the U.S. Supreme Court passing an extraordinary ruling allowing the U.S. Administration to abduct citizens from other countries and put them under U.S. law without the consent of the countries involved. This ruling is unprecedented and completely ignores extradition treaties among countries.

The decision comes at a time when everyone is trying to end acts of piracy and hostage taking. Is the privilege the U.S. Supreme Court ruling gives U.S. administrations all that different in practice from hostage taking in other parts of the world?

It would have been more worthwhile had the West met this new Arab attitude with positive moves, leading to greater regional stability rather than taking measures that could lead to increased confrontation and the shedding of more blood and tears.

Cites Possible Use of Military Force

NC2006081792 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0619 GMT
20 Jun 92

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jun (MENA)—AL-AHRAM stresses in its editorial today that the U.S. Supreme Court ruling authorizing the government to abduct foreigners and try them in U.S. courts contains serious mistakes because of the potential use of direct force to carry out this ruling.

The paper says that the seriousness of the U.S. right provided by this ruling lies in the fact that it may be

abused through using military force. Indicting nationals of a country with whom the United States has no extradition treaties would be sufficient to obtain an injunction from higher authoritative echelons for special strike forces to pounce on that country on the pretext of arresting the accused.

The paper calls to mind the U.S. invasion of Panama, the aim of which was to arrest former President Noriega and bring him to trial in the United States. After the issuance of this ruling, the paper says, there may be an inclination to use it and invade Libya.

The paper points out that with this ruling, U.S. policy now runs the danger of incurring animosity wherever the United States exercises this alleged right, which is a bad example that other countries might follow. The paper concludes that this will create a new state of chaos and turmoil in the world.

Libya

Storage Depot Near Tripoli Explodes 20 Jun

'Scores' Dead, Injured

LD2006173892 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1716 GMT
20 Jun 92

[Text] Tripoli, 20 Jun (JANA)—A horrific explosion occurred this morning at depots used for storing fireworks, explosives for roads and quarries, and pipes for the Great Man-Made River, 21 km southwest of Tripoli.

The accident left scores dead and injured. Ambulances rushed to the accident scene to transfer the injured to the hospital for treatment, according to the limited facilities available at these hospitals.

A source from the General People's Committee for Health told JANA that it was impossible to transfer dozens of injured and wounded abroad to receive treatment and undergo emergency operations due to the air embargo imposed against the Great Jamahiriya.

The source added that this situation resulted in the rise of the number of dead, especially among women and children.

Investigation Launched

LD2106140292 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0940 GMT
21 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Tripoli, 21 June 1992 (JANA)—A team of experts in the Public Prosecution Department started an investigation into yesterday's explosion in a warehouse belonging to the safety goods establishment. This team is working in committees set up with experts and the help of the Prosecution. [passage omitted]

Death Toll Rises to 17

NC2106124592 Paris AFP in English 1155 GMT
21 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Tripoli, June 21 (AFP) - The death toll in a powerful blast at an explosives warehouse southwest of the Libyan capital has risen to 17, an official source here said Sunday [21 June].

A Health Ministry source said many of the casualties in Saturday's explosion—termed an accident by officials—had died while en route by boat to Malta for urgent treatment that was not available in Libya.

The source updated to 17 dead an initial toll of nine killed and 143 wounded supplied by the Justice Ministry.

The explosives warehouse in Qurji, 21 kilometres (12 miles) from Tripoli, belonged to a company linked to the interior ministry, officials said. It was completely destroyed.

The official news agency JANA said the depot contained "products for fireworks and explosives used for public works, notably channels of the Great Industrial River"—a massive project to irrigate parts of the Libyan desert.

The blasts were clearly heard in Tripoli, where plumes of smoke were visible on the horizon.

Libyan television interrupted its coverage of parliamentary debates in the northern town of Surt to bring pictures from the scene. Informed sources said first reports only emerged nine hours after the initial explosion. [passage omitted]

Air Embargo Blocking Evacuations

LD2106082792 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0753 GMT
21 Jun 92

[Text] Tripoli, 21 June 1992 (JANA)—A wave of public resentment prevails, especially among the families of the victims of yesterday's explosion at a depot for explosives for fireworks, roadworks, and quarries, due to the impossibility of transporting dozens of the injured abroad because of the air embargo imposed on the Jamahiriya.

A source at the General People's Secretariat for Health said that a great number of the injured cannot be treated locally, because they need urgent operations and delicate plastic surgery that is difficult to perform here.

He told JANA this morning that he fears that the number of the dead among the injured could increase due to the air embargo and the impossibility of transporting them by sea to neighboring countries, because their physical conditions do not permit that.

The number of dead increased to ten, most of whom are women and children, it was announced late last night. The initial toll mentioned that 143 were injured as a result of the explosion that happened in a depot

belonging to a safety goods establishment managed by the Secretariat of the General People's Committee for Justice.

Al-Qadhdhafi Says Congress To Decide Extradition

LD2006074192 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0600 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] In an interview with the first channel of French TV, Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi said that the General People's Congress would decide by next week whether to hand over both Libyans suspected of planning the bombing of the American Pan Am Boeing airliner.

He reiterated that the French judicial request to interrogate the suspects of assaulting the UTA DC-10 airliner could be accepted. He said there are no obstacles and that the judge could come whenever he wants to.

Al-Bishari Comments

LD2106083992 Paris Radio France International in French 0630 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] In Libya, the General People's Congress—that is, the parliament—begins today its second week in session in Surt. The main decision expected, at least abroad, concerns the extradition demand by London and Washington for the two Libyan nationals involved in the Lockerbie attack against a Pan Am plane in December 1988. It seems that we will not have long to wait. In fact, the foreign minister, Ibrahim al-Bishari, thinks a decision could be made in 48 hours. Mr. al-Bishari recalled that Libya has never been against a trial of these two nationals, with the reservation that conditions of neutrality should be respected. He answers Farida Ayari's questions:

[Begin al-Bishari recording] There will be a free debate in this congress. The basic people's congresses have ended their deliberations. Now it is the People's Congress' turn. The issue is in the hands of this congress. Nobody is authorized to say what or which resolution should come out of this congress. We have to wait for the debate to draw the appropriate conclusions. We have never refused a neutral trial. We have always said we are for the whole truth, either in Libya or elsewhere. We are the first who are interested in finding the truth, because we are sure that our two nationals are innocent. [end recording]

Allegations of Developing al-Fatih Rocket Denied

LD2106160992 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1122 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] Paris, 21 Jun, (JANA)—The Zionist enemy's radio quoted the French weekly LE POINT as saying that the Israelis are worried about the development of the "al-Fatih" rocket in Libya.

The magazine stated that the technical assistance that Libya received from European companies could increase the rocket's range to 1,000 kilometers, which constitutes a danger to the Israelis.

On the other hand, the French newspaper LIBERATION mentioned that there are Western firms that are still operating in Libya despite the embargo, with their governments' approval.

The Zionist enemy's Paris radio correspondent attributed the same newspaper as saying that "there are about 1,000 people, including engineers, technicians, and other workers from the United States, particularly in the oil industry field."

The source at the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation refuted these allegations, stating that they are baseless.

He pointed out that the magazine's allegations are not among our priorities. We never thought about it, where our basic priorities are concentrated on executing strategic projects, completing the great Man-Made River, and building hospitals and schools.

Envoy to Egypt's Recall, 'Personal' Views Linked

NC1906150592 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 17 Jun 92 p 1

[From "This Week's Secrets" column]

[Text] AL-AHALI has learned that the recall of Ahmad Qadhdhaf-al-Damm, coordinator of Egyptian-Libyan relations, to Tripoli was authorized after he voiced his personal opinion that Libya should show the maximum possible flexibility on handing over the two suspects in the Lockerbie case. This politically embarrassed his cousin, Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, who was waiting for the issue to be referred to the Libyan General People's Congress.

Opposition Leader Views al-Qadhdhafi's 'Crimes'

PM1906113592 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 17 Jun 92 p 6

[Interview with Libyan National Salvation Front Secretary General Muhammad al-Muqaryif by Huda al-Husayni; place and date not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Al-Husayni] Colonel al-Qadhdhafi tried to invite the opposition back to Libya. Some opposition members did in fact return. What if he asks the People's Congress to grant a general amnesty to all opposition members and invite them back to assume high positions in the state? Would you return?

[Al-Muqaryif] I would not return. It would be no honor for me to return to a country ruled by al-Qadhdhafi. I want to state here that al-Qadhdhafi still refers to all the resistance members, including those who have returned,

as "stray dogs," an expression not used by any other contemporary political ruler in the world. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] What if you are asked to participate in government and in decisionmaking?

[Al-Muqaryif] I am certain that, if given the opportunity to express their hopes and aspirations, the Libyan people, having coexisted with al-Qadhdhafi for 23 years, would have no request other than to see al-Qadhdhafi go, leaving the country to its people to choose the form of government they want. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] What would be your position if al-Qadhdhafi held a parliamentary general election?

[Al-Muqaryif] General elections while al-Qadhdhafi remains in power would be nonsensical.

[Al-Husayni] Even in the presence of international observers?

[Al-Muqaryif] In that case elections could produce results. I am certain that the people's decision would not be in favor of al-Qadhdhafi and his regime. They would call for an end to the tragedy. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] You are the secretary general of the biggest Libyan opposition faction. You have been described as the Fatah of the opposition. Is that an appropriate and suitable description?

[Al-Muqaryif] We were not the ones who used or adopted that description, but we are proud to be the main, the strongest, and the most important opposition faction.

[Al-Husayni] What are your numbers?

[Al-Muqaryif] As many as there are good honest Libyans.

[Al-Husayni] Can you put that in figures?

[Al-Muqaryif] The figure comprises the honorable Libyans aspiring to a better future governed by the constitution and by reason.

[Al-Husayni] What is the front's total membership?

[Al-Muqaryif] Do not expect me to give you the figure, but it is large and capable of shouldering the responsibilities under the total struggle program we announced in 1981. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] Your armed forces: Do they consist of the Libyan POW's who were captured in Chad and who refused to return to Libya?

[Al-Muqaryif] Certainly not. They are part of the forces. We began training on commando operations the first month after the front was established; that is, in October 1981. We began the operations, including the Bab al-'Aziziyah operation, and built up a large number of fedayeen who were joined by the force that was in Chad and Libyans from tribes of Libyan origin who had emigrated to Chad at the time of the Italian occupation and remained there.

[Al-Husayni] Who is receiving training in the United States?

[Al-Muqaryif] Let me emphasize here that we have declared the option of using force against the regime ever since the formation of the front. We are not prepared to waste the forces we have, military or fedayeen. We feel it our duty to use these forces for fulfilling our objective, which is overthrowing the al-Qadhdhafi regime. Since the force moved to the United States we have endeavored to ensure that it continues its training in one way or another until we can use it when we need to, but it is not the only force. Our real force is at home and in positions that do not even occur to al-Qadhdhafi.

[Al-Husayni] You are known to be a religious man. Is the front Islamic in nature and tendency?

[Al-Muqaryif] The front is based on the Libyan people. It would be rejected; it would be unacceptable; and it would be untrue to itself and its people if it did not express all the love that is in Libya and all the links to the homeland, the Arab nation, and our religion. There is nothing private about what can be said about anyone in the front who is religious. Had it not been for my adherence to the spiritual values of our religion I would not have been able to confront al-Qadhdhafi all those years when I was in Libya and I would not have been able to resist all his blandishments. Also, had it not been for my love for my homeland and attachment to these values I would not have dared to oppose al-Qadhdhafi and his crimes and madness with such vehemence, clarity, and frankness. I, however, do not believe that spiritual values should lead to fanaticism. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] It is clear now that there is some disagreement between al-Qadhdhafi and Jallud. Is that true, or do you believe that they do not disagree?

[Al-Muqaryif] We in the front have prepared a study on this matter. They have conflicting personalities, although both claim to be revolutionary. Their inclinations are different, and I believe that differences have existed between them since the early years and on many issues, but these differences have not reached the point of collision.

What we have recently been seeing is what is known as the game of role-sharing. Jallud is not necessarily a part of that game. The game has been imposed on him, because al-Qadhdhafi, realizing in recent years and since his rapprochement with Egypt that he had to pursue a liberal foreign policy, wanted to keep a line of retreat open to him, so he used Jallud to express rejectionist positions. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] What if al-Qadhdhafi's game backfired? Would Jallud exploit the situation and topple him?

[Al-Muqaryif] Ostensibly, Jallud has all the signs of authority and influence. For example, he comes from a strong tribe that has members in the security organizations and in the Army. It is an armed tribe. He is the head of the Revolutionary Committees and has good and extensive links with Libya's technocrats resulting from his long years as prime minister, and he also has diverse external links in Europe, in what was Eastern Europe, and in Asia. All these are signs of influence and power

not available to anyone else, but two things seem to prevent Jallud from settling the battle with al-Qadhdhafi:

1. He lacks willpower. By nature he is a follower and cannot play the part of leader.
2. There has been much talk about Jallud's early links with the Americans. Perhaps he is not acting now, because he has not been given the green light to act.

[Al-Husayni] Recent AL-JAMAHIRIYAH articles indicate that al-Qadhdhafi knows very well what his people hold against him. Many people believe that he wrote or inspired these articles himself.

[Al-Muqaryif] He certainly knows what the people hold against him, because he knows what he did. He is not the kind of ruler who practices tyranny and murder out of ignorance. He does so consciously. [passage omitted]

Yes, al-Qadhdhafi knows but in these articles, which he wrote. Al-Qadhdhafi is trying to lie to the Libyan people and to the world. He knows that, but he is trying to give the impression that the cause of the Libyan people's sufferings over the past years was his pan-Arab and unionist policy, which is not true. The Libyan people's tragedy is a result of al-Qadhdhafi's abolition of freedom and rights and a result of the fact that he has kept the country without a constitution, mishandled its resources, destroyed its economy and infrastructure, and undermined its reputation. Another reason is the regime's current crisis, the international community's attitude to him, and the Security Council resolutions calling on him to hand over the suspects. These are the causes of the regime's crisis. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] Do you believe that Libya unilaterally planned and executed the Lockerbie operation? Is it the only party responsible for that operation?

[Al-Muqaryif] I cannot answer that question. I believe that only the competent judicial authorities are qualified to answer that question. I do know, however, that al-Qadhdhafi has a terrorist record. He is involved in supporting and financing international terrorism and groups. His record is long and very bloody. Signs of his complicity in the Lockerbie incident were apparent in the first two years afterward. Terrorism is his means of fulfilling his ambitions.

[Al-Husayni] Do you favor extraditing the two Libyan suspects to U.S. or British justice?

[Al-Muqaryif] The crime was ugly and despicable in every sense. Whoever committed it or participated in its planning must be punished. If Libyan justice had been fair and impartial, Libya would not have participated in such actions. It is known that the Libyan judicial system does not provide the minimum guarantees of independence and impartiality. The request by the states concerned for extraditing the suspects is a legitimate request. These states, the United States, Britain, and France, have a right to insist on their demands. I do not see any moral or national embarrassment in saying so.

[Al-Husayni] Do you believe the People's Congress will ask the two Libyans to give themselves up?

[Al-Muqaryif] I believe that al-Qadhdhafi's reluctance so far to hand over the two suspects has nothing to do with respect for the law or Libyan sovereignty. Al-Qadhdhafi never respected the laws. He canceled them all, and since he assumed power, Libya has been without a constitution. [passage omitted]

Al-Qadhdhafi has not handed over the two suspects because he knows for sure that handing them over would ultimately lead to demands for his head. He knows and the world knows that he is the head of the the Libyan security and intelligence services which plan such operations. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] Can we say that al-Qadhdhafi is assured of the security organ's loyalty to him?

[Al-Muqaryif] Yes. The chain of command in this case is very short. The people behind these operations are probably 'Aabdallah al-Sanusi and 'Abd-al-Salam al-Zadmah or (Foreign Minister) Ibrahim al-Bishari.

[Al-Husayni] It has been noticed that al-Qadhdhafi formed special committees for all sectors in the country, except the oil sector, which remains under his control. Why?

[Al-Muqaryif] Because it is a sensitive and important sector, and because the future of the whole country depends on it. [passage omitted]

Daily Says Revolutionary Committees Not Needed

LD1906204492 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1630 GMT
19 Jun 92

[Text] Tripoli 19 Jun (JANA)—Under the headline "We No Longer Need Those People," today's AL-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR (mouthpiece of the Libyan Revolutionary Committees) published an editorial in which it analyzed with some objectivity the (?true) work of the Arab Revolutionary Committees for the last 20 years. The paper started its editorial by wondering: What have the Arab Revolutionary Committees achieved? What have they won? With which cause have they sided? What is the only slogan that they managed to turn into reality? And what have they done for the revolution that they have been marketing?

Those people think of themselves as superior with their culture, conviction, and minds. But a number of them are rather from an oppressive, tyrannical, exploiting and enslaving lineage. (They are not revolutionary given their roots.)

After evaluating the Arab revolutionary committees' work and their wrong practices whether in or outside the Arab arena AL-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR editorial stressed in saying: After 20 years we no longer need another project that they will use as a source of revenue for them or to use to score one-upmanship. They (? should) laugh at one another instead of laughing at the masses, because the oppressed masses do not need their likes; they have

done nothing for them in 20 years. The masses know their way and they know how to make the change.

Daily Questions Support for World Muslims

LD1906223792 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1115 GMT
19 Jun 92

[Excerpts] Tripoli, 19 Jun (JANA)—Under the headline "The Billion [Muslims in the World] and the Siege of al-Ansar" [the partisans who granted the Prophet refuge after the Hejirah from Mecca], AL-JAMAHIRIYAH published today [words indistinct]. Otherwise, what is the use of the Islamic World League when Muslim does not support his Muslim brother, help him and come to his aid, especially when his harm came from the enemies of religion. Did not the inhabitants of Medina at the time of the prophet play a major role in Islam, receive their brothers in religion, made them feel at home, support them, and share with them their homes and money?

They were a minority of believers who were able to lay down the pillars of an Islamic state and enter Mecca. [passage omitted]

What is the use of continuing our support for this huge number of Muslims, about whom it is permitted to say that they are many but of no use. What is crucial is not the number, as God Almighty said: "How often a little company has overcome a numerous company, by God's leave! And God is with the patient." God has verily spoken the truth. [passage indistinct]

Yet some want us to continue to chase the mirage and describe what we are saying as a reneging on raising the banner of Islam, making no distinction between our raised slogans and our attitude to Islam and the Muslims. Our position on Islam is clear and frank and will remain so. We are Muslims by nature, and defending religion and Islam will remain our line, principle, and objective [word indistinct] our Shari'ah. Our attitudes to the Muslims alone need to be reconsidered, as we, as Libyans, have no longer any interest with today's Muslims while they are in this state. [passage indistinct]

U.S. Planes Reportedly Burn Grain Fields

JN2006180892 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1738 GMT
20 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Jun (INA)—Trade Minister Muhammad Mahdi Salih has stressed that George Bush's aircraft, in the most appalling criminal attempt against the people of Iraq, have burned more than 11,000 dunums planted with wheat and barley.

The minister was speaking to a news conference attended by correspondents from international press agencies, radio and television networks, INA, and the local press this evening. He said the new aggression targeted 22 agricultural sites, setting fire to a total of 6,600 tonnes of wheat and barley.

He said the new aggressive act against the people of Iraq complements the aggression of the unjust economic blockade. It is further proof that the U.S. Administration never hesitates to use any ways and means to prevent the Iraqi people from obtaining the food and medicine they need.

The minister stressed that the Iraqi people, thanks to their rallying around their wise leadership, their wonderful steadfastness under the banner of leader President Saddam Husayn, and their growing resilience against all vicious enemy attempts, have enraged the enemy. The enemy, therefore, has been searching for ways to hurt the Iraqi people.

The trade minister added that the state's subsidy of the prices for purchasing grain from peasants to achieve self-sufficiency and the peasants' response to this step has angered our enemy and denied them the opportunity to starve the Iraqi people. So, in addition to burning agricultural crops with their planes, they prevented the entry of agricultural fertilizers into Iraq. This reflects persistence in their aggressiveness and deep-seated grudges against the Iraqi people.

Dr. Muhammad Mahdi Salih also called on world banks which hold frozen Iraqi assets to bear their responsibilities in full toward the shortage of food and medicine and the suffering of the Iraqi people by allowing the use of these funds to purchase food and medicine and other necessities.

He emphasized, moreover, that the sons of the Iraqi people are capable of confronting all the attempts of the spiteful enemy so as to continue to hold their heads high in the Iraq of sacrifices, the Iraq of Saddam Husayn.

'Technical Failure' Refuted

JN2006190592 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1805 GMT
20 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Jun (INA)—Agriculture and Irrigation Minister 'Abd-al-Wahhab Mahmud al-Sabbagh has refuted U.S. allegations that a technical failure was behind the dropping of flares and the burning of Iraqi wheat and barley fields by U.S. warplanes.

The minister told INA that the U.S. aircraft are continuing their aggression against Iraq with a view toward setting further fires to fields and horrifying citizens. This indicates disdain for values, ethics, and peoples' capabilities, the minister added.

The minister said that Bush's allegations about human rights and combating terrorism are false, as he himself practices terrorism against nations. He stressed that the crime of setting fire to wheat and barley fields is one of the most serious acts of terrorism in the world.

He said the crime is not the first of its kind in the war against the food of the Iraqi people. Earlier, he explained, hostile U.S. forces prevented small civilian agricultural planes belonging to the Agriculture and Irrigation Ministry from fighting the fatal eurygaster integriceps [sunn pests], which attacks wheat and barley, and from combating vegetation that reduce agricultural production. The aim was to destroy these two strategic crops needed for the food of our entire people, the minister said.

He said these civilian planes are used throughout the world for protecting crops and combating blights and diseases. The criminal Americans, however, insist that these planes not be used for agricultural purposes in the northern area. This proves that their allegations of not interfering with civilian works and projects are false.

The agriculture and irrigation minister appealed to Arab and international organizations, and to all people that love virtue, peace, and freedom, to support Iraq against this international terrorism against the great people of Iraq—the people of the human civilizations that radiated virtue, light, and culture on the world.

He denounced the complete silence of the betrayers of the nation on these crimes. This, he said, indicates that these traitors have persisted in treason, cowardliness, and surrender to colonialism and Zionism.

Claim of Radar Tracking 'Baseless'

JN2006200192 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1935 GMT
20 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Jun (INA)—The staff lieutenant general pilot commander of the Air Force and Air Defense [title as received] has refuted today's announcement by the Pentagon that the U.S. pilots who dropped flares on agricultural fields on the outskirts of Mosul did so because they believed Iraqi anti-aircraft missile radars were tracking them. He said that the U.S. allegations are completely baseless, because no such tracking ever took place. We challenge the Pentagon to produce a single piece of evidence to prove its false allegations, he said.

The Air Force and Air Defense commander added: The enemy planes seized the opportunity of the wheat and barley harvest over the past two weeks to fly at very low altitudes of 10-50 meters in order to burn the wheat and barley fields with flares and with the afterburners, which

spit out flames, that, at such very low altitudes, can burn piles of wheat and barley that are ready for harvest.

The Air Force and Air Defense commander said that the hostile U.S. planes did not drop flares during their provocative flights before the current harvest season, something that proves that the U.S. pilots have specific instructions to carry out such criminal acts during the harvest season. He said that the U.S. pilots used to fly in two-plane and three-plane formations, at close intervals, and on a daily basis during which they dropped their flares on fields in the region.

Assembly Denounces 'Ugly Aggression'

JN2106144792 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio
Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Excerpt] The National Assembly has urged all Arab and world parliaments, parties, political forces, and humanitarian organizations to denounce and condemn the new ugly aggression committed by the United States and Britain. U.S. and British planes have burned large areas planted with wheat and barley in 22 villages in Ninawa Governorate.

In a statement issued today on this treacherous crime, the National Assembly says: The clear and flagrant attack carried out by the U.S. and British planes was a deliberate and calculated attempt to deprive the people of Iraq from their food and basic living needs. The attack also demonstrates the impatience of the tyrannical aggressors as a result of the Iraqi people's steadfastness in the face of the unjust blockade imposed on them. [passage omitted]

Compensation, Bush Prosecution Urged

JN2106153392 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1430 GMT
21 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jun (INA)—Agriculture and Irrigation Minister 'Abd-al-Wahhab Mahmud al-Sabbagh has stated that criminal Bush's commitment of the evil crime of burning wheat and barley fields in the western areas of Ninawa Governorate clearly demonstrates the magnitude of the hatred and aggressiveness harbored by the imperialists and Zionists against the people of Iraq and their evil intentions to hurt the Iraqi people's steadfastness.

In a news conference today, the minister said that the burning of approximately 11,000 dunums of wheat and barley harvest in northern Iraq confirms the desire of the United States to destroy the Iraqi people's food and to continue the imperialist schemes to stretch the economic blockade imposed on Iraq.

The current phase through which we are passing, he added, requires extraordinary efforts by all virtuous and noble people in the world to press their governments to put an end to the unjust economic blockade being imposed on Iraq and to denounce this ugly crime being committed by the henchmen of world imperialism. He

also urged Arab and world unions and humanitarian organizations to confront this aggressive onslaught.

He detailed the extent of the damage inflicted on the Iraqi people as a result of Bush's aircraft burning farmers' fields. He said that 7,700 tonnes of wheat and barley were burnt. Furthermore, the minister said, large areas planted with wheat and barley in villages and subdistricts in Ninawa Governorate were destroyed.

The minister called for prosecuting Bush for his ugly crime and for compensating the farmers for the material damage they have sustained.

Peasant Protest at UN Office

JN2006142992 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1356 GMT
20 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 20 Jun (INA)—Iraqi peasants have strongly condemned the U.S. aircraft's horrible crime of burning thousands of dunums planted with wheat and barley in villages near Mosul, Ninawa Governorate.

In a mammoth rally in front of the UN Development Program office in Baghdad, the peasants denounced the cowardly acts of the U.S. warplanes, which dropped flares in harvested fields on stacks of grain. Thousands of tonnes of grain were consumed by the resulting fires.

In protest memoranda to the UN mission, the Chinese and Russian ambassadors in Baghdad, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, the peasants said that the acts conflict with the most fundamental international and divine laws, and are not in line with the principles of human rights, about which criminal Bush and his allies are bragging.

The memoranda say that the continuation of the unjust blockade against the people of Iraq, and the deprivation of Iraqi children and old men of food and medicine, are meant to bring further disasters of hunger, death, and want on the Iraqi people.

Opposition Conference in Vienna Criticized, Ends

Opposition 'Misfits,' 'Dispicable Pests'

JN2006053892 Baghdad ALIF BA' in Arabic
10 Jun 92 p 7

[Article by Kamil al-Sharqi: "They Will Die Before Assuming Iraq's Leadership"]

[Text] Reports say that a group of despicable human pests are meeting in Vienna to discuss the issue of "toppling the regime in Iraq."

This is not the first meeting of these misfits who claim to their masters and the masters of their masters that they are working for the salvation of Iraq. Neither will this be their last meeting. In the past, they were misled by their illusions and held a meeting on the Arab land on which

the family of Sa'ud are imposing their dark regime. They also held another meeting in Arab Syria, which is suffering from the pain of the wound caused by cutting the Golan from its body and replacing the Golan people by groups of those who have been rejected by God's earth.

All reports indicate that this despicable group of misfits is afflicted with all kinds of moral and psychological illnesses. They started their meetings by exchanging all types of insults and accusations among themselves, making those suspicious parties who financed these meetings feel that the meeting of these misfits and despicable elements has become a burden on them, that they no longer can use any of the news about these meetings to achieve their goal in harming Iraq and its brave leadership represented by the historic leader Saddam Husayn.

Through these meetings, these creatures or human insects can only expose themselves, their masters, and the masters of their masters who wanted to use them against Iraq and its free will which defies all storms. Therefore, the world has come to know the quagmires in which these defeated ones are wallowing. They are defeated from within before being defeated from without.

Here, we must record in the name of every Iraqi under the generous Iraqi sky and on its pure water and pure land—let these despicable pests and their masters and all the forces of injustice and plotting hear us—that the methods of despicable scandals, indecency, and mean wickedness which was fabricated in quagmires will not be able to harm Iraq or undermine its lofty leadership. They will die before harming it.

Iraq has long realized that these germs must be expelled and kicked out of Iraq, its skies and waters. The early "quarantine" of these germs, which were dipped in the quagmire, was effected from the first days of the glorious 17-30 July revolution led by leader hero Saddam Husayn.

However, as we record this, we are well aware that the masters and the masters of the masters wanted these dwarfs to play their ridiculous, cheap, and degraded role as a mean and cheap propaganda tool, after which they will disappear into oblivion.

Iraq and its lofty leadership will remain strong and sound. These few have lost contact with their existence and have begun to roll in the mud contaminated with the disease of betrayal. Iraq defeated all the powers of evil. How can these pests harm it?

Iraq has at its helm the historic leader Saddam Husayn. It has proudly overcome all the hurricanes and storms and is going on its path supported by the voices of millions of world peoples who declare their open and categorical rejection of the inhuman and unjust siege. The Iraqis will destroy the wall of the siege around their

great country. Iraq's firm entity will crush all the venomous storms and hurricanes. These misfits will be drowned in their own quagmires and all of the evil plots will die with them.

Iraq will continue to be the same: a permanent edifice and a permanent jihad for a decent free future.

Opponents Cite Western Involvement

NC1906195892 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1320 GMT 18 Jun 92

[Text] The Iraqi opposition's Vienna conference opened on Wednesday, 17 June, in the absence of several influential members of the Iraqi opposition. Attending the conference are sides that spoke about the unity of Iraq, saying that in spite of what some say, unity is voluntary, not obligatory.

His Eminence Ayatollah Muhammad al-Baqir al-Hakim, leader of the Islamic opposition in Iraq, announced that he has reservations about the conference's preparations and timing. The conferees face numerous difficulties, including the position of Iraq's neighboring countries, which have also voiced reservations about the conference.

According to opposition officials who are staying away from the conference, the U.S. Administration and several Western countries are behind the conference—their aim being to impose individuals and forces that lack popular support among Iraqis. The doubts of the parties not taking part were vindicated when the U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near East and South Asian affairs met with a number of leading personalities attending the conference.

SAIRI Envoy in London Dismissed

NC1906192992 (Clandestine) Voice of the Iraqi People in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Jun 92

[Text] The Voice of the Iraqi People has learned from Iraqi opposition sources that Ayatollah Muhammad al-Baqir al-Hakim, chairman of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq [SAIRI], has dismissed Muhammad 'Ali, alias Abu-Haydar, from his post as his representative in London and appointed Dr. 'Abd-al-Wahhab al-Hakim in his place.

The opposition sources say that the decision was made due to Abu-Haydar's insistence on holding the Vienna conference despite al-Hakim's conviction that the conference does not fulfill the ambitions of the Iraqi opposition, does not represent the Iraqi people, and does not serve SAIRI's interests.

Al-Hakim has recently said that an important conference will be held within two months and will be attended by all the Iraqi opposition groups. He added that more serious preparations will be made for this conference to

ensure its success and to enable it to provide the right national alternative for dictator Saddam Husayn's regime.

SAIRI Criticizes Vienna Conference

NC1906192092 (Clandestine) Voice of the Iraqi People in Arabic 1400 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Leading Iraqi opposition personalities have agreed that the current structure of the Vienna conference does not represent the opposition forces inside or outside Iraq.

In interviews with the Voice of the Iraqi People, these personalities said that the conference entrenches division in Iraqi society and damages opposition unity.

The Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq [SAIRI] issued a statement in Beirut saying that it will continue to oppose the Vienna conference as long as the opposition is not united. SAIRI added that the justification for holding the conference becomes null and void as long as there is no agreement over a clear and unified program that can be implemented by a unified body.

SAIRI believes that the only way Saddam's regime will fall is by a popular revolution inside Iraqi territory, in cooperation with a regional and international consensus to secure Iraqi unity and sovereignty.

Fakhri Karim, a member of the Iraqi Communist Party's Politburo and member of the Joint Action Committee's General Secretariat, has said that in spite of the good intentions of the Vienna participants, the conference has exceeded its limits in serving the Iraqi opposition and the struggle to topple dictator Saddam Husayn. He said that foreign influence was used to hold the conference, adding that those who insisted on holding the conference want to paint themselves as alternative leaders of the opposition forces. Karim noted that the sons of our people realize that toppling Saddam requires opposition unity; it will not happen if forces, personalities, and organizations are created that entrench what Saddam himself wants to entrench.

In a similar interview, Dr. Jamil al-'Atiyah, member of the leadership of the Iraqi National Democratic Reconciliation Grouping, said there is no hope for the Vienna conference. He said the success of any Iraqi opposition conference requires the participation of national forces that will put the ambitions of the Iraqi citizen, who is suffering from deep wounds caused by the dictatorial Saddam regime, first. He said he believes a conference of all the Iraqi opposition forces needs to be held with the support of the regional forces that back the people of Iraq, adding that these forces need to relieve the people of the unjust resolutions caused by Saddam's dictatorial regime.

Salih Duklas, general secretary of the Iraqi Democratic Grouping, said that the Vienna conference does not meet the necessary conditions to serve the cause of our people in Iraq. The conference's current structure will damage

opposition unity, he said, adding that any Iraqi opposition conference must include all the major and secondary groups and independent opposition figures.

Abu-Salah, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party leadership for the Iraq region, said the Vienna conference does not represent the basic forces of the Iraqi people. He said that there is no relationship whatsoever between the Joint Action Committee's General Secretariat and the Vienna conference. He said he hopes the conference does not splinter the opposition, which is working to topple the Saddam regime and establish a national alternative. [passage omitted]

Tension in Opposition Reported

NC2006165992 (Clandestine) Voice of the Iraqi People in Arabic 1400 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] Well-informed sources tell us that confusion has marred the Iraqi opposition's Vienna conference. Statements by Hushyar Zibari, a representative of Mas'ud Barzani, concerned and dismayed the opposition circles.

Zibari, voicing the arrogance with which the Kurds view non-Kurdish opposition members, said that the Kurds will not give the Iraqi opposition a blank check. Our invitation for them [reference to non-Kurdish Iraqis] to come to northern Iraq is conditional, based on the Iraqi opposition signing constitutional guarantees saying that force will not be used against the Kurds under any circumstances.

Disclosing the true reason why the Kurds attended the conference, Zibari said that the conference provides Kurds with a precious opportunity to renew their assurances to the West that they do not wish to secede from Iraq.

Zibari said that the Kurds want to know what rights they will have under a new regime.

Sources reveal that the Kurds have a powerful presence in all the conference's committees. For example, Jalal Talabani heads the Political Committee, the conference's most important committee. Zibari heads the Field Action Committee. The Constitutional Committee is chaired by Husayn al-Sadr, a cleric with no experience in law.

Talabani told SAWT AL-KUWAYT that he briefed the conference on the Kurdish people's aspirations, adding that all members of the Iraqi opposition support Kurdish national aspirations and their rights for self-determination.

Talabani said that the Kurdish people are the only people in the world who do not have an independent state despite their great number. Talabani asked the conference to support the Kurdish demand that part of the frozen Iraqi funds be given to the Kurdistan Front. Talabani also called on the conference to approve the Iraqi-Kuwaiti borders as determined in accordance with the cease-fire conditions.

Results of Vienna Conference Reported

JN2006065892 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
0500 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Hisham Milhim dispatch from Vienna]

[Text] The national conference of Iraqi opposition forces has ended in Vienna with the election of a national assembly of 71 members who represent the various political, national, and religious trends. Using all available and legitimate means, the national assembly will act to topple Saddam Husayn's dictatorial regime, as mentioned in the recommendations of the conference's constitutional committee.

Despite reservations by some forces and figures with regard to certain resolutions, there was an agreement that the conference represents a turning point in terms of action by the Iraqi opposition, as conference spokesman Layth Kubbah was cited as saying. The conference demonstrated the existence of a free and democratic will that no party or government controls and that represents the various trends and forces which have succeeded in attaining a unified action program offering a democratic alternative for Iraq.

Dr. Ahmad al-Shalabi, one of the organizers of the conference, told Radio Monte Carlo that the conference has come out with a clear political concept on Iraq's future and its regional and international relations. The conference, he added, has confirmed that there is a free Iraqi will; it was organized thanks to Iraqi efforts and it was financed by Iraqis.

While the recommendations of the economic, human rights, and other committees were approved with a large majority of votes, a lengthy voting process occurred over the provisions of the recommendations by the constitutional committee, particularly the provision on the Kurdish people's right to self-determination. The national assembly approved this provision with a simple majority. This provision stipulates the enhancement of the Iraqi people's national unity, complete equality for all citizens, and the Kurdish people's right to self-determination within the Iraqi homeland and not separate from it.

Although the Kurdish leaders agreed to this formula, some Kurds and democratic Arab figures voted against it. They say that the right to self-determination should not be conditional. Hushyar Zibari, head of the Kurdistan Democratic Party delegation, noted that despite his reservations about this formula, what is needed is the attainment of a compromise solution acceptable to the majority. He said that the conference attained its basic objectives, particularly the formulation of a political action program for the opposition forces. He affirmed that the yardstick for the success of the Iraqi opposition forces lies in how effective they are on Iraqi territory.

The conference resolutions also call on the international community to establish a safe area in southern Iraq. The

conference's economic program focuses on the importance of adopting a market economy policy and calls for the formation of an economic authority that will contact the United Nations and various foreign countries to discuss the transfer of the frozen Iraqi assets they are holding to the Iraqi opposition so that they can spend these funds on the Iraqi areas in need of care and attention.

Conclusion of Talks Reported

NC2006201392 (Clandestine) Voice of the Kurdistan
Revolution in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] The Iraqi opposition conference concluded in Vienna yesterday with conferees adopting a number of important decisions. It appears that the Kurdistan national forces scored a major victory during the conference. For the first time, the conferees recognized the Kurdish people's right to self-determination in Iraqi Kurdistan.

More than 200 delegates, representing more than 40 opposition groups, attended the massive meeting. An assembly of 71 personalities, representing various political, nationalist, and religious currents, was elected to pursue all available and legitimate means to overthrow the [word indistinct] Iraqi regime. This meeting constitutes a turning point for the Iraqi opposition, as conference spokesman [name indistinct] pointed out. The conference shows that there exists a free Iraqi will that is not controlled by any party or government, one that represents the various forces and powers, and one that managed to lay down a unified program of action to seek a democratic alternative in Iraq.

Dr. Ahmad al-Shalabi, one of the conference's organizers, said that the conference agreed on a clear-cut political view on the future of Iraq and its regional and international relations. He added that the Vienna conference has underlined the free Iraqi will because it was an Iraqi effort.

A number of recommendations by the Economic and Human Rights Committees were approved by a large majority. A vote was taken on the constitutional provisions, particularly a clause concerning the Kurdish people's right to self-determination. The General Assembly approved a clause calling for consolidating the national unity of the Iraqi people and attaining full equality among all citizens.

The conference urged the world community to establish a safe haven in southern Iraq. It also recommended a market-oriented economy and established an Economic Committee the purpose of which is to contact the (?UN) to discuss the issue of frozen Iraqi assets. The aim is to get these monies transferred to the Iraqi opposition to spend on the various Iraqi regions that need care and attention.

Vienna Conference Issues Statement

JN2006203092 (Clandestine) Kurdistan Voice of
Unification in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Jun 92

["Text" of a "special report on the conclusion of the 2nd Iraqi opposition conference held in the Austrian capital, Vienna, between 16-19 June, along with the final statement signed by various factions and movements"]

[Text] The Iraqi opposition delegations participating in the Vienna conference, which concluded its sessions last night, have announced the creation of a council and an executive committee that will function as a government-in-exile.

The conference also approved several resolutions and recommendations regarding the future of Iraq. The participants were unanimous that the Kurds have the right to self-determination within the context of Iraq's territorial integrity.

The first [as heard] Iraqi conference also approved the election of a higher commission to function as a free Iraqi parliament-in-exile, made up of 87 members, including 22 Kurdish members and one member from each of the two minorities, the Turkmen and Assyrians, while the brother Arabs formed the overwhelming majority of the commission. The seats of the commission were distributed on the basis of the size of the population of national, ethnic, and religious factions, and not on the basis of the political weight of parties or the fact that they are Iraqi opposition.

It was clear that some forces had boycotted the conference, including the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq [SAIRI], whose boycott affected the proceedings of the conference.

It was also decided to choose a higher presidential commission made up of seven members to lead the country as soon as authority is assumed in Iraq. The commission will have the authority to supervise the conference's higher commission, the parliamentary commission, the executive commission, and the commission of the interim government.

The executive committee will be composed of 15 members who will act as ministers in the interim government, each according to his specialty. No place has been chosen yet for the interim government and the parliament to practice their activity. The Kurdistan Front suggested the liberated areas of Kurdistan as a temporary headquarters. The conference decided that the interim government's tenure in office shall last for one year to carry out several duties, such as removing the remnants of the regime in Iraq, rebuilding security agencies in accordance with the decisions of the final statement, canceling exceptional agencies, giving freedom to citizens, and respecting human rights and general constitutional principles.

One of the interim government's tasks will be to normalize ties with neighboring and other states based on

mutual respect and common interests. This is in addition to rehabilitating the country and securing food and medicines. The conference has charged the interim government with working toward eliminating the policies and manifestations of racial, religious, and sectarian displacement and legislating its cancellation.

The conference also decided to call at least an annual session and as the need arises subject to the approval of the majority of the executive committee. The conference was attended by around 250 delegates representing 40 political parties and groups, in addition to independents.

The economic committee recommended the freeing of the Iraqi national economy and building it on the foundations of the free market supported by the private sector. Within the framework of the human rights committee, the conference has adopted recommendations on the need to respect basic human rights. The conference tasked the field work committee with setting up and developing an armed forces nucleus so that it replaces the present military force in Iraq.

Meanwhile, in a radio interview, the conference spokesman Mr. Layth Kubbah stressed the earnestness of the effort to overthrow the dictatorial regime through popular will. He also emphasized the need for the opposition to mount a political and public relations campaign. He also stressed the necessity of bringing the exceptional circumstances back to normal, addressing the decaying economic conditions and reasserting due process. He also noted the need to pay attention to human rights in order for it to become possible to relocate the interim government to liberated Kurdistan so that this government cooperates with the popularly-elected Kurdish parliament and mounts an anti-regime drive there.

Al-Da'wah Criticizes Conference

NC2206082192 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic
20 Jun 92 p 12

[Text] Jawad al-Maliki, chairman of the preparatory committee of the Iraqi opposition conference held in Beirut on 11 March 1991 and member of the al-Da'wah Party Political Bureau, has said that the Vienna conference does not represent the Iraqi opposition and that his party does not recognize the conference or its outcome. He rejected the Kurdish right to self-determination demanded by Jalal Talabani, chairman of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, as a step toward secession.

Speaking to AL-SAFIR about the circumstances surrounding the Vienna conference, al-Maliki said: "The Joint Action Committee, formed by the opposition conference and based in Damascus, is the only body entitled to convene the conference. In this case, the committee's London branch made the decision to hold a conference in Vienna after a fraudulent process designed to secure support for the conference."

Al-Maliki added: "Ahmad al-Shalabi (an independent member of the Iraqi opposition), one of the most prominent figures at the Vienna conference, obtained a large amount of funds from an American organization, operating under humanitarian cover, to hold a conference in Vienna. This is the CIA's connection with the conference."

Al-Maliki said the London branch of the Joint Action Committee does not truly represent the opposition. Ahmad al-Shalabi is being sought by Jordanian authorities for stealing funds from the al-Batra Bank; Abu-Haydar al-Husayni has been dismissed from the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq; and Layth Kubbah (former member of the al-Da'wah Party), Muhammad Bahr-al-'Uloom, and Latif Rashid are independent figures who do not truly represent the opposition. Therefore, he added, we believe that the Vienna conference was held because of Western promises, and it went far beyond what the opposition parties had agreed to earlier. We do not recognize the Vienna conference or its results, he stressed.

Al-Maliki pointed out that a preparatory committee of Iraqi parties was established before the conference, which conducted the necessary studies for holding a general conference in northern Iraq and contacted the Kurds regarding this. He explained that only two matters were left for the committee: Kurdish self-determination and determining the ratio of party representation at the conference.

The Kurds refused to hold a conference in northern Iraq at that time because they were negotiating with (Iraqi President) Saddam Husayn and thought that holding the conference in northern Iraq would affect those negotiations, he explained.

Certain problems prevented the conference from being held in Saudi Arabia, he added. Hence, we made arrangements to hold the conference in Vienna. What is happening in Vienna, however, will not build a healthy and sound society in Iraq. We are still serious about preparing for a conference within Iraq.

Regarding Talabani's demand at the conference to recognize the Kurdish right to self-determination, al-Maliki said: "We held discussions on the Kurdish issue, and signed a joint charter after the Beirut conference providing for genuine Kurdish autonomy in accordance with the improved version of the 11 March declaration—dictated by the Iraqi people—within the framework of a united Iraq." The al-Da'wah Party recognized the Kurdish right to self-determination in its general conference four months ago, he said. As for Talabani's demand for self-determination, it is a step toward secession. We ask for reassurances from the Kurds on this point, he said.

Al-Maliki pointed out that "the Kurds obtained American promises to transfer some frozen Iraqi funds to them in order to rebuild northern Iraq."

Commenting on the Kurdish elections in the north, al-Maliki said: "From the perspective of autonomy, we view these elections as a positive development, despite the problems connected with them." He completely rejected, however, forming an independent state on the basis of these elections.

Al-Maliki described the Iraqi opposition's relations with Saudi Arabia as cautious. We are not convinced that Saudi Arabia is taking a positive stand on the Iraqi issue, although Riyadh resents Saddam remaining in power, he said. Al-Maliki said that relations with Iran "are better than those with Saudi Arabia." He remarked, however, that "we cannot disregard our own will or let anyone act on our behalf."

Conference Spokesman Interviewed

NC2106192692 London MBC Television in Arabic
1800 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Statement and interview with Dr. Layth Kubbah, official spokesman for the Iraqi opposition's Vienna conference and a member of the conference's Executive Committee, by MBC correspondent Fatimah Bin-Huhu; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Kubbah] The turning point lies in the fact that this is the first time a meeting like this has taken place. Over 200 respectable personalities from among Iraqis abroad and Iraqi political opposition circles, without the help of a state and without the supervision of a party or any group, planned and carried out this conference. The conferees expressed their different viewpoints. The important result is that they managed to independently reach common ground. They have also decided to continue their work.

The conference's timing was also a turning point. Kurdish leaders, who were elected constitutionally in northern Iraq, took part and united with Iraqis living abroad. We hope this will give us legitimacy and credibility in taking action to deal with the many pending concerns of Iraqis living abroad.

[Bin-Huhu] Over 60 Iraqi groups are trying to topple Saddam Husayn's regime; however, there is almost no coordination. Can the Vienna conference be seen as a coordination conference among these groups?

[Kubbah] The Vienna conference was held to find a common denominator in the major political currents among the Iraqis and the representatives of the various sectors of Iraqi society. The only force that can topple Saddam Husayn's regime is the force of the people and the state institutions.

[Bin-Huhu] Muhammad Baqir al-Hakim, leader of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, made statements that the Vienna conference does not guarantee the unity of the opposition or represent the unity of the Iraqi people. Why?

[Kubbah] It is true that the Vienna conference does not represent the unity of the opposition for the simple reason, as you mentioned, that there are over 60 groups. If some groups do not attend, opposition unity is damaged. However, our major task is not only to gather the opposition. It is to work on terminating Saddam Husayn's regime. Our major problem is to help those people inside Iraq who are working on removing Saddam Husayn.

Talabani: 'Not for Separatism'

AU2206085192 Vienna KURIER in German
21 Jun 92 p 3

[Interview with Jalal Talabani, chief of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan in Iraq, by Sibylle Hamann in Vienna during a conference of Iraqi opposition groups: "The Kurds Are Counting on Democracy"]

[Text] [Hamann] Have the Kurds deviated from their line of negotiations with Baghdad?

[Talabani] With our free elections, in the end, we severed all relations with Baghdad. Still, we are not for separatism. What we want is self-administration within a democratic Iraq—and this is possible only without Saddam. Our democratic experiment is also important for the other opposition groups—if it is successful, it will stimulate resistance. However, if it fails, we will lose credibility.

[Hamann] How do Iraq's neighbors react to these plans?

[Talabani] The fact that we are sitting in Vienna and not in Tehran means something: We do not need any patronage from outside; we work of our own free will and represent our own interests. Never again will we be an instrument for someone. And we will not permit the neighboring countries to interfere in our plans in their own interests.

[Hamann] Will Kurdistan survive the withdrawal of the United Nations?

[Talabani] Everyone thought that we would not survive independently for long—but we have proved that we can administer our own affairs. The United Nations will extend its presence. Of course, an attack by Saddam Husayn is possible at any time, but we are firmly convinced that the world will not let this go unpunished. In addition, a new attack would provide an opportunity for a coup—because at that moment the Shiites would not sit still, either.

[Hamann] What help do you hope to get from abroad?

[Talabani] Those who supported Saddam Husayn's armament have the moral obligation to help us. Austria, too, shares responsibility. Why are they providing spare parts only to the Iraqi troops, why not us, too,—in the same "legal" way in which they supplied Baghdad? [tenses as published] In addition, we demand a fair share in the frozen foreign assets of the Iraqi Government.

Kurdistan National Council Meets 20 Jun

JN2106164992 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan
in Arabic 1450 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] Irbil—The Kurdistan National Council held a session at 1500 on Saturday, 20 June, under Speaker (Jawhar Nabilq). Financial and economic affairs in Kurdistan were discussed in general during this session, as well as the reorganization and the reoperation of plants and industries in the area.

During the meeting, 5 million dinars were earmarked for the salaries of employees and teachers. The sum of 3 million dinars was collected from the Kurdistan Front's Customs post in Dahuk, while 2 million dinars was collected from the Rawandoz and Raniyah Customs posts.

The names of ministries and ministers are expected to be announced soon.

Kurdish Parties Announce Unity, Form Leadership

JN2106193592 (Clandestine) Voice of
Unification in Arabic 1738 GMT 21 Jun 92

["Text" of a joint statement by three Kurdish parties, the Kurdistan Socialist Party, the Kurdistan Democratic Independence Party, Pasok, and the Kurdistan People's Democratic Party, on "unification steps and the convening of a unified conference for the three parties" at a news conference in Irbil on 8 June]

[Text] O masses of our struggling Kurdish people: Unity among the ranks of the Kurdish liberation movement was one of your most important requests and wishes. This desire was based on your awareness of the effectiveness of unity in achieving victories for our people's just cause and your belief that it is one of the most important conditions and foundations of victory.

This true concern of yours is one of the facts substantiated by experience and proven by our struggling march for liberation. The establishment of closer ties among the ranks of the Kurdish liberation movement has led to important achievements, while discord and disunity among its ranks has led only to weaknesses.

The establishment of the Kurdistan Front in 1988 played an important role in the steadfastness of our people and its peshmergas in the face of the fierce war of annihilation launched by the enemy. It also had an important role in the success of the valiant popular uprising and in garnering wonderful achievements, such as the liberation of the larger part of our beautiful Kurdistan from the yoke of dictatorship and the democratic steps that followed this, including the election of a Kurdistan National Council.

Today, after the valiant uprising, the need for unity among the ranks is more pressing than ever. This is true if we are to safeguard the important achievements made by our people, to bolster struggle in all fields, to make the

best use of appropriate international circumstances to allow the voice of our people to reach all forums, to garner more achievements, to pool energies, to expand the popular base, to safeguard democracy in Kurdistan, to implement the policy of the law, to resolve people's economic and security problems, to rebuild Kurdistan, and to revive its destroyed economy, especially the agriculture sector.

Proceeding from these noble national concerns, out of an awareness of responsibility, and in response to the wishes of the sons and daughters of our unyielding people, our three parties—the Kurdistan Socialist Party, the Kurdistan People's Democratic Party, and the Kurdistan Democratic Independence Party, Pasok—have decided, following lengthy discussions and intensive meetings and consultation of party and military cadres and friends, to unite in a national progressive democratic unified party. This party will struggle for the legitimate national rights of our Kurdish people and our Kurdish nation's right to self-determination, including the right to establish its independent state as a final objective.

The unified party also will work to safeguard and bolster the achievements of our people, to revive and rebuild our homeland, to provide a better standard of living for its sons and daughters and a free, honorable life for its

citizens, to entrench democracy, to protect human rights, and to achieve social justice and affluence.

In order to achieve these blessed tasks, it has been decided to form a joint leadership that will arrange for the holding of a unification conference in the near future to discuss and to approve the bylaws of the new party and to elect a new leadership for it.

O unyielding, steadfast Kurdish people: We are confident that the desired unity is an important historic step along the path toward achieving a final victory. The new party will be an important guarantor to achieve the aspirations of the sons and daughters of our unyielding people. It also comes in response to their true interests in entrenching democratic life in Kurdistan. We are certain that you, the sons and daughters of our steadfast people, will rush to the support and backing of your new party in all fields.

While conveying to you the good news of this unity, we call on all parties, sides, and figures that believe in the achievement of this unity to join us and to contribute to a noble objective and goal and a blessed, precious popular demand.

[Date] 8 June 1992

'Defense Sources' on U.S. Role in Gulf War

TA2106113692 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS
OFFICE in English 21 Jun 92

[Text] Defense sources have said that, during the Gulf war there existed a direct and frequent link between the Israeli Defense Ministry and the Pentagon particularly between United States Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney and Defense Minister Moshe Arens.

Israel appreciates the efforts invested by the United States, during the course of the Gulf war, to destroy the Scud launchers in western Iraq and to prevent the danger of a missile strike against Israel. United States activity against Iraq demonstrates the shared strategic interests between Israel and the United States.

During the Gulf war, the aerial superiority of American aircraft—which are the best in the world and which form the back-bone of the IAF [Israeli Air Force], that obtains them with American defense assistance funds—was once again proven.

Lebanon's Release of 'Terrorists' Protested

TA1906135892 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1300 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] Israel protests the Lebanese authorities' decision to release three Fatah terrorists who participated in an attempted attack north of Rosh Haniqra nine months ago. The report about the release was broadcast yesterday [as heard] by the Lebanese Voice of the South radio station.

Uri Lubrani, coordinator of government activities in Lebanon, noted that the release of terrorists without trial is bound to have grave consequences. He explained that the issue had been raised in one of the meetings with the Lebanese delegation to the bilateral talks. The head of the Lebanese delegation had promised to take legal steps against the terrorists.

Reaction to Palestinian-'Arafat Meeting

Labor Criticizes Likud on Meeting

TA1906112492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1005 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Report by Yo'el Nir]

[Text] The Labor Party's semiofficial reaction to the Palestinian notables' meeting with 'Arafat was, and I quote, in spite of all the Likud government's declarations, and despite the fact that it continues to bury its head in the sand, this government is holding indirect or direct negotiations with the PLO, unquote. The statement implies that it does not really matter whether the members of the Palestinian delegation met with PLO officials openly or behind closed doors. Nevertheless, the Labor Party added that if elected to head the government, it will negotiate with a delegation made up of Arab

residents from the territories. It also clarified that Labor considers the present Palestinian delegation, which met with the PLO leadership, to represent the residents of the territories. Labor asserts that the main thing, as far as it is concerned, is making progress in the negotiations with the Palestinians.

Meanwhile, in an interview with the Danish paper BERLINGSKE, Faysal al-Husayni said that the PLO would prefer the Labor Party to win the Israeli elections. Al-Husayni noted that Yitzhaq Rabin promised the Palestinians autonomy within six months; therefore, the peace talks will be easier if Labor wins.

In reaction, Labor sources claimed that this report is unworthy of comment, just like the statements made by 'Arafat several weeks ago, according to which he prefers Shamir to Rabin. The bottom line was: Give me none of your flattery and none of your scorn.

We also have a Likud reaction to the above affair. The Likud reaction team claims that Labor's declaration that the Likud is negotiating with the PLO is yet another lie in Labor's endless fabrications. On the other hand, the Likud claimed, the statement issued in Amman by PLO spokesman Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, according to which all peace lovers should take a stand against Shamir, furnishes additional proof that any victory by the Alignment would also constitute a victory for the PLO.

Shamir on Meeting; Bin-Nun's Remarks

TA1906135092 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1300 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] The police commissioner and the attorney general have agreed on steps to be taken against Palestinian delegation members who met with 'Arafat. That was reported by our police affairs correspondent Moshe Nussbaum. Sources at the police command refused to be more specific and agreed only to state that an inquiry will be launched. Earlier today Police Minister Roni Milo said that the delegation members would be detained as soon as they return to Israel.

The prime minister said that, in his view, legal steps would be taken against al-Husayni and 'Ashrawi. Replying to reporters' question on the matter, Mr. Shamir noted that the act contravenes every previous agreement with the Palestinians and with the peace process cosponsors.

Our correspondent Meron Tzur reports that the prime minister also noted that Reserves Major General Bin-Nun's remarks about the Americans' activities during the Gulf war are unacceptable to him. Mr. Shamir made these observations following an address at the Commercial and Industrial Club in Tel Aviv.

Meeting 'To Reassure' Delegation

TA1906195592 Jerusalem Israel Television
Network in Hebrew 1710 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Ehud Ya'ari]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] The open meeting between some 10 Palestinian delegates and Yasir 'Arafat yesterday in Amman, and their meeting today with the PLO top echelons in the framework of the so-called higher Palestinian committee, which was chaired by another PLO official, Abu-Mazin, were an attempt to establish a fait accompli before the next government is formed in Israel. [passage omitted]

The objective of the latest Palestinian move is obvious, but the question is why they chose to hold the open meeting during the last week of the election campaign, thereby emphasizing the issue of the PLO's role in the peace process on the eve of the elections. Some Palestinians believe the delegation would have done better to wait until after the elections, when coalition haggling begins. Other Palestinians say the timing will have no impact on Israeli processes in any event.

Faysal al-Husayni himself, who refuses to be interviewed, though he promises an official statement later, tells us tonight through a middleman that there was a need to reassure his delegation and restore its impaired credibility among the public in the territories. He describes his meeting with 'Arafat mainly as an effort to help the delegates recover their pride, and that was done by televising them kissing 'Arafat.

It should be noted that this very afternoon al-Husayni's opponents from among Fatah ranks, headed by Radwan Abu-Ayyash, held a meeting in East Jerusalem opposite al-Husayni's house on the Mount of Olives. Participants in the meeting directed rather harsh—albeit implicit—criticism at the Palestinian delegates. The meeting received congratulations from 'Arafat. [passage omitted]

Delegation Members To Be Interrogated

TA2106045092 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
0400 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] The police say that at this stage there is no intention and no need to arrest the Palestinian activists who conferred with 'Arafat when they return. Moshe Nussbaum, our police affairs correspondent, reports that only if they refuse to be interrogated at the specified time and place will the Palestinians be arrested. The police will apparently wish to interrogate Faysal al-Husayni, Hanan 'Ashrawi, and the members of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks shortly after they return home. Senior police sources stress that this time, unlike previous occasions, the investigators have hard evidence to support the suspicion against the Palestinian activists: the television report covered the meeting with Yasir 'Arafat.

Shamir, Levi on U.S. Reaction

TA2106093392 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
0900 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Foreign Minister David Levi expressed satisfaction with the U.S. reaction to the meeting between the Palestinian delegation to negotiations with Israel and PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat. Our political correspondent Arye Golan reports that Prime Minister Shamir told the cabinet that the issue will be handled by the attorney general and the pertinent legal authorities, and that the members of the Palestinian delegation will be treated according to the law when they return from Amman.

Foreign Minister David Levi noted that according to the U.S., the PLO is not a partner in negotiations. The remarks were made in reply to a question by Yitzhaq Moda'i who wanted to know what measures would be taken against Hanan 'Ashrawi, Faysal al-Husayni, and Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi.

Cabinet Discusses Meeting, Reaction

TA2106171292 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1605 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Report by political correspondent Arye Golan]

[Text] This morning's cabinet session was the last before the Knesset elections, but those who attended it called it a routine and business-like.

The political issue the ministers discussed this morning was the televised meeting Hanan 'Ashrawi, Faysal al-Husayni, and Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi—who head the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks—held with PLO head Yasir 'Arafat. Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i said that despite the ongoing peace talks, the fact that the law was violated here cannot be overlooked and all legal steps against the three must be taken, just as they were taken against [Israeli peace activist] Abie Nathan in the past. Discrimination is out of the question, Moda'i said.

Minister Avner Sciaki asked what steps will be taken against 'Ashrawi and al-Husayni. Police Affairs Minister Roni Milo clarified that the police will handle the affair according to the law and that decisions will follow the recommendations of the state attorney.

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said that this was a unique incident. It is not only about ignoring the law. The political intention behind the move contradicts everything that had been agreed upon before the peace process started, he said. Regarding the means that will be employed, the prime minister said that State Attorney Harish will adhere to the law and, Shamir added, we will take it into account in all future political moves.

Foreign Minister David Levi warned that the fact that the meeting in Amman was held is very grave and that it may have serious repercussions. This matter was made unequivocally clear to the U.S. ambassador in Israel

when he was summoned Friday to meet Cabinet Secretary Elyaqim Rubinstein and Eytan Bentzur, Foreign Ministry deputy director general. The United States understood the gravity of the incident, Levi said, and mentioned the remark made over the weekend by the State Department spokesman. The U.S. message is that the PLO has been disqualified from participating in the political process. This message is aimed not only at the Arabs but at other countries as well, the foreign minister said.

The government will continue dealing with the hugs and kisses with 'Arafat in Amman even after big Tuesday, but from the elections until a new government is set up the current cabinet will act as a caretaker government, which will continue functioning in its current composition, which cannot change until the new coalition is set up.

Paper Holds Shamir-Rabin Debate on Issues

TA1906105792 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT
(LESHABAT supplement) in Hebrew 19 Jun 92
pp 1-4, 18

["Debate" between Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Labor Chairman Yitzhaq Rabin, moderated by Dan Shilon; place and date not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Shilon] Yitzhaq Rabin, your political world view actually has no subscribers in the Arab world. Are you not playing chess with yourself?

[Rabin] The main question we must ask ourselves today is what is the uniqueness of the period in which we are living. It is a period of fantastic opportunities. Events have taken place in the world to which our contribution has been nil. The collapse of the Soviet empire, the disintegration of the Soviet Union, the end of the Cold War, the termination of the Soviet support of the leaders of the Arab countries, the Gulf crisis and the United States' courageous stand opposite Iraq—all these put off or reduced the danger to Israel's very existence. The danger has not passed; it has lessened. We have gained time.

In 1991, Iraq was the closest it had ever been to attaining nuclear weapons. This danger has been put off. The Soviet Union [as published] has opened its gates to emigration, and the question is how to take advantage of all these events to promote peace in areas where this is possible.

I do not think that magic formulas or shortcuts can bring about peace overnight. This is a process that must be undertaken seriously. As early as in 1988-1989, I gave top priority to a dialogue with a Palestinian delegation from the territories. I believe that the formula of autonomy and self-government is feasible if it is tackled seriously.

For example, I discern a contradiction between the pace of the negotiations and the fact that the government proposes to hold municipal rather than general elections

in the territories. Regardless of the national order of priorities, an abundance of settlements in densely populated areas (I am not talking about Jerusalem and the confrontation lines) will not bring about the implementation of an agreement on establishing autonomy, which I believe harbors the chance for a turning point.

[Shamir] It is true that the Likud's recent triumphs are related to the results of the Gulf war. Israel's position during the Gulf war was 100-percent just, and there was no other alternative. This position has proven itself and has accorded Israel a great deal of prestige in the international arena, including the Arab world. It enabled the Americans to promote the initiative that made the beginning of the peace process possible.

Seeing that they were very interested in this process, they more or less accepted our conditions—that is, direct negotiations without preconditions. Seated opposite us around the negotiating table are residents of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza—the people we wanted—and no representatives whatsoever of East Jerusalem.

There is no PLO representative or anyone resembling the PLO within the Palestinian delegation. That is a fact. We are sitting with this delegation and not with anybody else. This also ties in with the boom in the wake of the Gulf war regarding the expansion of Israel's diplomatic ties. This is a fact that cannot be ignored, whatever anyone may say. The Labor party totally ignores the extensive development of Israel's diplomatic ties over the past two years. Thirty-five countries resumed or established relations with us. This cannot be taken lightly. Countries such as China, India, the largest African countries, Mongolia in Asia, and other countries. This is a big success.

We insisted on direct negotiations without preconditions. The Arabs presented the removal of Jewish settlements from Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza as a precondition. We said we would not agree to that. Settlement continues and will continue. It does not only provide housing to a vast part of the Jewish people, but we also consider it a necessity.

Settlement in the vicinity of Jerusalem, 140,000 Jews who joined settlements beyond the Green Line during the Likud's term in power, and another 120,000 Jews in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza reduce the possibility of a Palestinian state being established in those areas. As settlement increases, the danger of the establishment of a Palestinian state in this part of Eretz Yisra'el will drop to zero.

[Shilon] Mr. Rabin, Yitzhaq Shamir speaks about the expansion of Israel's relations in the international arena, whereas you, in the television debate on Tuesday, pointed to the crisis in Israel's relations with the United States. If elected prime minister, how will you dispel this crisis, in view of the fact that the United States objects even to the security settlements which you favor, as opposed to the other settlements which you term political settlements?

[Rabin] First, I would like to respond to some of the remarks made by Mr. Shamir. I do not deny the fact that in the wake of the changes in the international arena—the collapse of the Soviet empire, the U.S. dominance of the international arena, and the Gulf war—conditions were created which enabled the developments described by Mr. Shamir. I am not disputing that.

As for the negotiations, I think that even if Faysal al-Husayni and Hanan 'Ashrawi are not in the negotiating hall, they are the ones steering the Palestinian delegation. If you check the so-called "Jordanian-Palestinian delegation," you will find a representative of the Palestinian diaspora and avowed PLO representatives, and you will see that there is a dialogue between the Palestinian delegation and Yasir 'Arafat and that it reports to him. To say today, as Mr. Shamir does, that there are no negotiations with the PLO is not borne out by the facts.

My problem is not with the territories. My problem is with the fact that there are over 700,000 Palestinians and slightly more than 5,000 Jews in the Gaza Strip today, while in Judaea and Samaria there are 1 million Palestinians. The question is whether we want to annex 1.7 million Palestinians (and perhaps 2 million in the future) and make them citizens of the State of Israel. Is this the dream of generations of Jews in the diaspora: to set up a binational state in which one-third of the population is made up of Palestinians, who are a totally different religious, political, and national entity from us?

Therefore, the Likud solution of a Greater Israel will transform the State of Israel from a Jewish into a binational state. This is what the argument is all about.

[Shilon] You did not answer my question about the security settlements.

[Rabin] I had my experience with President Ford. He demanded of me to stop settlement in Jerusalem, the Jordan Rift Valley, and the Golan Heights. I told him "no." The Americans realized the Jewish people's sensitivity on the question of Jerusalem.

[Shilon] Did they also understand and agree to settlements along the confrontation lines?

[Rabin] Ford understood that, too. The fact is that he did not stop the aid. Allow me to put this once again to the test.

[Shamir] I do not have to convince the Americans that we have the right to build anywhere in Eretz Yisra'el. The fact is that in the days of President Carter, whose relations with Mr. Rabin when he was prime minister were very bad, we did not denounce or condemn Mr. Rabin for those relations. Carter regarded the establishment of Jewish settlements beyond the Green Line as illegal. When we pursued this activity and in the wake of our explanations, the Reagan administration dropped the argument that the settlements are illegal, and it has never been mentioned again to date.

The current administration claims that settlements are an obstacle to peace, but we stand firm in our position. Mr. Rabin says the main issue is where will the Palestinians be—in Israel or outside Israel—while my question is: What will happen to them? Mr. Rabin claims that because of the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza, the areas where they reside will not be included within Israel's sovereign territory, while my question is: What will happen with those areas? What will their fate be? We must answer these questions!

I am in favor of Eretz Yisra'el. This is a moral and spiritual issue; it is part of our national ethos. I cannot be indifferent to even the tiniest piece of land in this small country. There are problems. There is a problem with the Arabs here and the Arabs there, but in due time we will tackle these problems and solve them; however, first and foremost, this land must belong to the Jewish people.

[Rabin] The Likud, guided by its "not-even-one-inch" policy, was left without even one inch of land when faced with the first test of peace. I am talking about the peace with Egypt.² The fact that settlements such as Yamit and Ofira had been established ultimately led to one of the worst experiences in our history: We uprooted settlements, we destroyed Yamit, and we returned all the land to Egypt, down to the last grain of sand.

If the Likud argues that peace can be attained only in exchange for peace, why is it that in the first and only test of peace, they failed to retain even one iota of the Sinai Peninsula?

As for your question, Mr. Shamir, I am in favor of initially moving toward autonomy. The most important test of autonomy will be the ability to change Israeli-Palestinian relations. When asked whether he favors a federation with Jordan upon his return from Madrid, the head of the Palestinian delegation countered: Why not with Israel?

I am not trying to say that this is the Palestinian position, but I believe that it will be possible to create a new reality within the autonomy process, on condition that it comes into being and that we recognize that they constitute a different entity.

[Shilon] Will we recognize them as a national entity?

[Rabin] On their identity papers, they are registered as being of Arab nationality. If you read the Camp David accords, which were signed by Mr. Begin, you will find that they contain an agreement about the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. The fact that in the Hebrew version we wrote "Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el" is not binding on anybody; what is binding is the English version. We will have to find "unorthodox" solutions, which I believe are possible, so that the Palestinians do not become Israeli citizens and so that a sovereign Palestinian state is not founded.

[Shamir] Mr. Rabin totally ignores the fact that when we talk about Greater Israel, we mean Eretz Yisra'el and not

the Sinai. The Sinai Peninsula was never part of Eretz Yisra'el. Yamit and Ofira were part of the Sinai, and the State of Israel never considered them part of the state. That is why it was relatively easier for Mr. Begin to tell the Egyptians: "Take it."

As for Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza, he said on more than one occasion that they are ours, that they belong to Eretz Yisra'el. I abstained in the vote on the Camp David accords because it involved the removal of settlements, which set a precedent. As for recognizing Egypt's right to rule those areas, there was no argument.

[Rabin] That is your interpretation in retrospect.

[Shamir] No, not at all. [passage omitted]

[Shilon] Do either of you have a practical and efficient solution to the growing nuclear threat to our life here?

[Shamir] We have not finished discussing one problem, and you are already talking about the nuclear threat. I think that autonomy cannot be seen as the absolute solution to all the problems. Insofar as the Likud is concerned, this is not a theoretical question. For Rabin it is theoretical, because he does not have to deal with the issues, whereas we have to deal with them every day. We are the ones who are conducting the negotiations with the Arab side.

The Arabs do not agree to autonomy, either this or another form of autonomy. They hate the word. They only want to talk about a transition period leading to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. Therein lies the difference in our positions. We must bridge this difference. In the meantime, the negotiations continue and will continue. The Arabs do not show any sign of wanting to quit the negotiating table, and I hope that they will accept our formula and forgo theirs.

[Shilon] You did not answer my question on the nuclear threat.

[Shamir] The nuclear threat endangers global peace.

[Shilon] Do you not feel that the Middle East is in greater danger today than other areas of the world?

[Shamir] Indeed, the threat exists. The threat in our region has increased, and we have been dealing with it for years. It did not start today.

[Shilon] Are there any solutions?

[Shamir] There are no absolute solutions to anything, but there are solutions that enable countries to tackle such dangers. I think there is no disagreement between myself and Mr. Rabin on this point.

[Rabin] One must bear in mind that the response to the nuclear threat is a combined one. First of all, the Israeli Army must be strengthened; there is no question about that. We must not forget that Israel has a significant deterrent power which was developed many years ago, and which I believe still exists. I will say no more on this.

Second, we have gained time because the threat was put off. Iraq was the leading country in the Arab world, including Iran, in the development of nuclear weapons.

The importance of our relationship with the United States should be seen in this context. The strike on the nuclear reactor in 1981 taught the Iraqis a lesson and, as a result, they revised their nuclear program and adopted different methods which are not easily detected. Today, a nuclear threat can hardly be eliminated through an air strike.

The United States will be tested by whether it will continue to exert pressure on Iraq, with the help of the UN inspectors, for another two to three years. If it does not, the nuclear threat will have been put off for a limited period of time. As things stand today, we have gained five, 10, or 15 years, of which we must take advantage in the political sphere. I believe that if we expand the peace process with Jordan, the Palestinians, and perhaps with Syria in the future, we will lower the motivation for and the threat of war in general and the nuclear threat in particular. [passage omitted]

Shamir, Rabin Make Last Pitches

TA2106193092

[Editorial Report] Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew at 1732 GMT on 21 June airs the last batch of televised election propaganda advertisements. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir appears on the Likud's advertisement at 1820 GMT. Shamir says that "there has never been a stronger Jewish state or one in a better position than the one we have today." Shamir goes on to enumerate the Likud's achievements, noting the number of countries that have renewed diplomatic relations with Israel under his party's stewardship. Moving on to the peace process, Shamir asserts that "we are making progress in this lengthy and difficult task." Shamir is confident that peace shall be achieved as it "is inevitable." After explaining that the negotiations are progressing slowly but surely, Shamir warns that "we must not make any mistakes in anything, either in war or in peace."

Shamir then points out the Likud's tremendous achievements in the absorption of 400,000 immigrants from the CIS and Ethiopia over the last two years. Stating that during the Likud's tenure, "hundreds of new settlements were established," he notes that "after many years there is now a Jewish majority in the Galilee." Shamir adds that "there are hundreds of thousands of Jewish settlers in areas that were previously barren of any Jewish presence." The prime minister concludes by saying: "I hope with all my heart that the Likud will remain in power," clarifying that "it is of no importance whether it is with me or without me."

In his address in the Labor advertisement at 1824 GMT, party leader Yitzhaq Rabin appeals to the every member of the public "who feels that there must be a change, to everyone who is aware of the danger of indecision, and to

everyone who understands that the circle of helplessness and the paralysis that strangles our every hope must be broken." Rabin asks the public to give him the power to form "the best government for the people of Israel." He vows that "there will be no blackmail or horse trading." He concludes by promising that "if Labor under my leadership forms the next government, I will fulfill all the promises I have made."

Levi Denies Reports of Plans To Switch Parties

TA1906151592 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
19 Jun 92 p A3

[ITIM report]

[Text] Foreign Minister David Levi is repudiating media reports alleging that the Labor election campaign has avoided attacking him because he is expected to join a Rabin-led left-wing government after the elections.

"Those assessments are absurd, fallacious speculations," said Levi. He noted that he is "one of the Likud's two central pillars." "I have built my movement, and I have given my movement a part of my youth and energy, as I have proven throughout the years. The fact that Labor has not attacked me is its own business. They are apparently admitting that I have taken the right course of action as foreign minister. It is an honor for the Likud, and such preposterous conclusions are uncalled for," said Levi.

The foreign minister stressed that his political path is well known. "Together with colleagues in the Likud, I have recently been campaigning day and night for the Likud all over the country, to ensure that the Likud forms the next government," Levi explained.

The foreign minister stated that the speculations voiced in the media apparently derived from his successful performance on his job, "because the public is not blind, and one cannot argue with facts." Levi pointed out that polls indicate a vast majority of the public is satisfied with his performance as foreign minister. He emphasized, however, that his success on the job is not a personal achievement, but one of the government and the Likud.

Referring to Yitzhak Rabin, the foreign minister said that the Labor candidate, while debating with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir on television last Tuesday, raised an odd solution for the Palestinian problem, based entirely on his unwillingness to have Palestinian Arabs live inside Israeli borders. "His remarks imply that Rabin favors closures and encircling Judea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip with electric fences," he added.

Levi also said: "Israel is responsible for the population of Judea, Samaria, and Gaza, and we do not intend to impose closures on ourselves, God forbid. While we took the necessary course of action and advanced the peace

process, I heard no suggestion from Rabin on how to solve the Palestinian problem. He spoke without saying anything," said Levi.

Eytan Says Tzomet Not To Join Labor Coalition

TA2106100792 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0930 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] Refa'el Eytan announced that Tzomet would not join a coalition with Labor. Eytan made the remarks in the wake of various reports on the matter. He told our correspondent Menahem Horowitz that the decision is based on Tzomet's principle not to join a coalition with a party which would give up territories or would support a settlement freeze in Judea and Samaria.

Labor Leads in 3 Election Polls 19 Jun

TA1906171592 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT
in Hebrew 19 Jun 92 p 1

[Public opinion polls by Dahaf, Teleser, and Geocar-topographia polling institutes and commentary by Yesha'yahu Ben-Porat]

[Excerpts] Question: Who would you vote for, were the elections held now? (results in numbers of Knesset seats)

	Dahaf	Teleser	Geocar-topographia
Labor	41	42	41
Likud	35	32	30
Meret	12	12-13	15-16
Tehiya	3	3	3
Molodet	3	4	3
Tzomet	4	3	6-7
NRP	3	3	5
UTJ	3	3	7
SHAS	4	3	4
RAKAH		4	
ADP		2	
PLP		0-1	
RAKAH+ADP+PLP	6		5-6
Moda'i	0	0-1	0

[Key to table abbreviations: NRP—National Religious Party; UTJ—United Torah Jewry; SHAS—Torah Observing Sephardim; RAKAH—New Communist List; ADP—Arab Democratic Party; PLP—Progressive List for Peace]

The three polls were conducted on Tuesday and Wednesday this week and included a representative sample of the Jewish population. The number of interviewees was: Dahaf—1,017; Teleser—1,238; Geocar-topographia—1,169. The findings include estimated returns in unpollled and partially polled sectors, such as

the minorities, immigrants, settlers, inhabitants of kibbutzim, and naturally, IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldiers.

Commentary

—Since the polls were conducted on Tuesday and Wednesday, they reflect only part, if any, of the impact of the televised Shamir-Rabin debate. [passage omitted]

—All the new lists are still far from obtaining their first Knesset seat. Current trends indicate that about 100,000 votes will be thus wasted.

—The rate of “badly vacillating” respondents who will decide on their choice at the last moment currently stands at about 10 percent.

—In the Arab sector, the PLP now also stands a chance, provided the rate of Arab voting exceeds 70 percent.

Poll Shows Arabs Prefer Labor, Rabin

TA1906182492 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew
19 Jun 92 p 3

[Report by Muhammad Khalayla]

[Text] Labor, headed by Yitzhaq Rabin, leads in the Arab sector, according to a poll conducted by the al-Bustani publishing and advertising company, which works in the Arab sector. The poll is due to appear in today's issue of KUL AL-'ARAB, published in Nazareth.

The poll was conducted among 1,000 respondents of both sexes, young and old, from every walk of life, including inhabitants of Arab towns and villages in the Negev, the Triangle, and the Galilee, mixed Jewish-Arab cities, Bedouin villages, and small Arab settlements.

The poll shows that Labor has the support of 16.4 percent, with HADASH [Democratic Front for Peace and Equality] following with 14.5 percent, and the Arab Democratic Party in the third place with 12.6 percent. It is followed by Meretz with 12.2 percent. The Likud received 6.9 percent, while the Progressive List for Peace had 4.9 percent. Over 20 percent of the respondents were undecided, while 8.2 percent said they would not vote—or to be more precise, said they had decided to boycott the election.

In reply to a question on which Yitzhaq was their favorite candidate for prime minister, 39 percent of the respondents supported Yitzhaq Rabin, while only 1.2 percent supported Yitzhaq Shamir. About 37 percent rejected both candidates, while the rest had no clear preference.

Over 3 Million Eligible To Vote in Elections

TA2106113992 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1100 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] The number of eligible voters in the Knesset elections to be held on 23 June is 3,409,000. Of them 514,000 are first-time voters, including more than 300,000 new immigrants. This was reported by the Central Elections Committee.

Defense Plant Explosion Causes Several Casualties

TA2106093992 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
0900 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] There was an explosion at a defense plant in the center of the country this morning, and an initial report said there were several casualties. Our correspondent reports that the blast was caused by a technical fault or work accident, and the circumstances are now being investigated. The casualties were transferred to Asaf Harofe Hospital.

2 Killed, 7 Injured in Explosion

TA2106140492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1300 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Excerpt] A committee has been set up to investigate today's defense plant explosion. The commission includes Israel Military Industries' experts on explosives and blast effects as well as independent experts. Two people were killed and seven injured in the explosion.

Our correspondent Ilan Lazzerovich reports that four of the injured have already been sent home from the hospital. Two of the injured are hospitalized at Tel Hashomer Hospital, and the doctors say they may not survive. [passage omitted]

Ministry To Probe Complaints Against Shin Bet

TA2106141692 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew
21 Jun 92 p 1

[Report by Tova Tzimuqi]

[Text] The Shin Bet and the Justice Ministry have recently decided to establish an independent Justice Ministry unit to examine complaints against irregularities in Shin Bet interrogations. The unit will be subject to the unit in the State Attorney's Office in charge of investigations against policemen. A senior legal source has called this decision “revolutionary” because, after years of refusals, the Shin Bet has agreed to allow an external body investigate its interrogations.

The Landau report determined that the Shin Bet ombudsman should be in charge of complaints against the Shin Bet interrogators. In doing so, Landau ruled in favor of the Shin Bet stand and against the attorney general who, at the time, recommended that complaints against Shin Bet interrogators be investigated by a specially-established Justice Ministry branch.

According to current procedure, complaints against Shin Bet interrogators are examined by members of the organization itself. The findings of the examinations are relayed to a special team in the State Attorney's Office, headed by Deputy State Attorney Rahel Sukar, who hands the results back to the Shin Bet for further clarification when needed. A ministerial committee on Shin Bet affairs—consisting of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Defense Minister Moshe Arens, and Justice Minister Dan Meridor—decided on the new procedures following the recommendation of Meridor and State Attorney Dorit Beinisch. The recommendation came in the wake of numerous irregular incidents involving the

Shin Bet interrogations department reaching the courts. It also follows recognition of the fact that a body investigating itself is problematic.

Over the past several days, State Comptroller Miryam Ben-Porat has been examining the Shin Bet interrogations department, which expedited its agreement to allow an external body to examine complaints against it. The Justice Ministry now has to pass amendments that will anchor the change in regulations in the law. It should be noted that when the unit investigating policemen was set up, the Knesset amended the law in that spirit.

Fadlallah on Hostages, U.S. Supreme Court Ruling

NC2006064692 *Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed*
in Arabic 0530 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] Ayatollah Sayyid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has asked why the world shows no interest in the hostages who were kidnapped by Israel, which claims that the hostages held in its prisons and in al-Khiyam Prison [located in Israel's security zone in southern Lebanon] are prisoners, while in fact most of them were kidnapped from their homes, including His Eminence Shaykh 'Abd-al-Karim 'Ubayd. He also asked why the world and the United States do not mention our people who are being held hostage. His eminence said that the world shakes when a foreigner is kidnapped, but does nothing when Muslims are kidnapped.

He denounced the U.S. Supreme Court decision on kidnapping any person in any country who is wanted by the United States.

'Allamah Fadlallah said that Israel is brutally repressing the Palestinians in the occupied territories and is preventing them from working. It is displacing the border zone inhabitants, as happened in 'Aytarun and Hula. The United States and Europe have done nothing about this except urging self-restraint.

His eminence said: We respect the entire world and we want to be friends with everyone. But several states do not respect us and do not respect our rights and our need for freedom. When the world does not respect us, on what basis are we asked to respect it?

Commentary Criticizes U.S. Court Ruling

NC2006085992 *Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed*
in Arabic 0530 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The U.S. Supreme Court has issued a ruling allowing the U.S. Government to kidnap people from other states and try them, regardless of these states' opposition. Strangely enough, this court's judges have admitted that their ruling violates the principles of international law and contravenes all rights of independent states and their nationals. This is the ruling of the superpower, which claims it is protecting international law, human rights, and states' sovereignty. This is the ruling of a state which has launched several wars under slogans which are primarily violated by this arrogant state. As far as the United States is concerned, the law is a phony slogan which can be disregarded and violated at any time. No U.S. officials have bothered to justify these serious violations against the world.

In the U.S. dictionary, no one in this world can criticize U.S. behavior and criminal practices. The United States is allowed to do what other states are not. The United States launches wars against other states if they oppose it. Everything forbidden in this world is permitted for

the United States, including persecution, colonization, oppression, terrorism, and abduction of the citizens of other states. The United States considers itself the world's government and the punitive policeman who is allowed to commit crimes and massacres.

Nothing justifies U.S. intervention in the affairs of other states because each state has its sovereignty, independence, and laws. Each state that respects itself and protects its citizens definitely does not accept the U.S. policeman's action in kidnapping the nationals of other states. Several states have refused to sign an agreement on the extradition of even criminals with the United States. How will these states allow the United States to kidnap citizens from their homes and countries?

Just as the United States has rules and regulations preventing other states from interfering in or violating any article of these laws, other states also have rules and regulations preventing the United States from interfering to impose what it wants or to take what it wants. So far we have not heard that any state in this world has given the United States absolute control over the other states of the world.

If the United States, which is drowning in its economic problems and racial, social, and political crises, wants to discipline peoples and states and to try nationals from other states in its own courts, U.S. officials must solve their problems and crises first. They must eliminate the repercussions of the Los Angeles massacres, try the culprits of these massacres and those who ordered them to commit them before trying foreign nationals who have tasted U.S. arrogance and oppression.

It seems that U.S. leaders have closed their eyes and ears. They do not know yet the hatred which peoples throughout the world harbor for them. What happened to Bush during his recent visit to Panama—demonstrations against him and his administration, denunciation of his arrogant policy, a popular march toward his platform, and police use of tear gas, which affected Bush before affecting the demonstrators—is the best indication of the people's hatred and despise for the United States and its repugnant policy.

If U.S. leaders look at the future awaiting them among the people of the world, the results they will find will be no different than the results Bush recently saw in Panama. We also saw these results during the Los Angeles incidents. We will see more bitter reflections in other parts of the United States.

Nasrallah on Hostages, New Election Law

NC2006070792 *Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed*
in Arabic 0530 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] Hizballah Secretary General Hasan Nasrallah has criticized Lebanese Government officials for considering the hostage drama over while Israel continues to hold Lebanese in Israeli jails and detention centers and in the prisons of Agent Lahd, who still receives his salary from

the Lebanese state. Nasrallah asked why no government committees have been formed to locate the Lebanese hostages like the ones formed to find the foreign hostages. Is this because these officials do not consider the Lebanese to be humans?

In a speech during a Hizballah ceremony at Hawd al-Wilayah Secondary School in West Beirut on al-Ghadir Day [marking Prophet Muhammad's last pilgrimage to Mecca], Nasrallah said the reasoning behind the unconditional release of foreign hostages also must dictate the unconditional release of Lebanese, Palestinian, and Iranian hostages.

Discussing the new election law, Nasrallah said the law has been tailored to fit people, not the homeland. Why not make all of Lebanon one electoral constituency in preparation for abolishing political sectarianism, he asked. He was surprised by the demand that those over 21, rather than 18, be entitled to vote. He asked: Is the intention to deprive a political generation, which can influence the future of this country, of its right to vote? He noted that officials fear this generation will expel the traitors who have sold the homeland's honor and dignity.

Nasrallah called on those advocating democracy in Lebanon to reconsider this policy, which obstructs and disrupts our goal to establish a new republic.

Hizballah Election Participation Being Studied

NC2106122692 *Shanayh Voice of the Mountain*
in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] Hizballah Secretary General Hasan Nasrallah has affirmed that relations among the Lebanese must proceed from the basis of abandoning the Israeli option. He stressed the priority of confronting the occupation.

In an interview with AL-DIYAR newspaper, Nasrallah said: Our basic program is that of resistance to retrieve our land and realize an honorable and cherished peace for our people. He affirmed that the state is responsible for liberating the land. It is also responsible for dealing with the economic situation and solving the problem of services. He accused the government of failing to perform all these duties.

Nasrallah said the election law is not objective. He pointed out that the issue of Hizballah's participation in the elections is still being studied.

'Resistance' Attacks Lahd Post in Security Strip

NC2106053992 *Shanayh Voice of the Mountain*
in Arabic 0430 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] A resistance unit has attacked a Lahd militia [South Lebanese Army] post at Shwayya town in the eastern sector of the occupied strip, using rockets and machine guns. The unit clashed with personnel manning

the post for approximately an hour, after which the occupation forces fired 15 mortar shells on the al-Wastani Hills.

'Islamic Resistance' Checks Israeli Advance

NC2106064092 *Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed*
in Arabic 0530 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] Before we begin our newscast, here is a report from the Islamic Resistance operations room: An Islamic Resistance group at 0600 today checked a Zionist advance on al-Na'imah Hill near al-Ahmadiyah. According to initial reports, eight enemy personnel were killed or wounded.

The rancorous Zionist acts of aggression against the south continue. Rshaf town was bombarded by artillery during the morning.

Resuming its aggressions, the enemy last night directed artillery fire at Kafr Rumman and Kafr Tibnit. The enemy shortly after 2300 yesterday also raked the hills east of Kafr Rumman with large-caliber machine guns.

Details of Fighting Reported

NC2106080592 *Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed*
in Arabic 0730 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] A Zionist force tried to advance toward the al-Dallafah triangle at 0730 but was ambushed by the martyr 'Ali Ghalib group. Fierce fighting broke out between the Zionist enemy and our heroic fighters, leaving a number of enemy troops dead or wounded.

A mechanized force of enemy troops and its agents at 0800 advanced toward Hill 910 opposite the al-Ahmadiyah position. A land mine was detonated, destroying an enemy tank which is still on the battlefield.

The Islamic Resistance operations room has just reported that heavy clashes currently are raging at the entrance to al-Dallafah and that several enemy troops either have been killed or wounded. Meanwhile, enemy helicopters are flying over the area.

Patrol Advances Outside Strip

NC2106111192 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
1015 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] An Israeli patrol advanced outside the border strip and clashed with a Hizballah group this morning. The patrol, which comprised a tank and two armored cars, advanced 1 km outside the eastern sector on the Dallafah-Kawkaba axis at 0600 today.

Hizballah gunmen tried to check the patrol's advance by firing antitank rockets, and the patrol members returned fire.

The security source [as heard] added that two Israeli helicopters intervened and raked the suburbs of Dallafah and Qilya with large-caliber machine gun fire for 15 minutes.

Up until noon the patrol was still in this sector, which came under artillery fire from three positions in the border strip, while a pilotless reconnaissance aircraft flew over southern al-Biqā'.

Resistance Repulses Israeli Advance

NC2106163892 *Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic*
1530 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] A security source in Rashayya has said that an Israeli patrol's attempt to infiltrate areas outside the occupied border strip ended today after five hours and fierce battles with the Islamic Resistance.

A source in the Islamic Resistance affirmed that upon its withdrawal, the Israeli patrol, which advanced on the Dallafah-Kawkaba axis 1 km north of the eastern sector of the occupied border strip, took back with it the bodies of at least seven dead and wounded from its ranks.

The security sources clarified that during the infiltration attempt, which started at 0600 today, the attacked region came under shelling from artillery locations inside the occupied border strip and heavy-caliber machine guns used by helicopters, which flew two sorties over the area.

This is the first word on casualties on either side. During its advance, the Israeli patrol, consisting of a Merkava tank and two armored vehicles, clashed with resistance fighters, who were equipped with antitank weapons and machine guns. The Islamic Resistance, which is deployed in force in this region, said that its fighters destroyed two Israeli armored vehicles. Police sources said that until this afternoon, the sound of scattered

shelling could be heard in the region. An Israeli reconnaissance drone overflew the region.

Israel Takes Over Southern Town of Arnun

NC2206053592 *Shanayh Voice of the Mountain*
in Arabic 0430 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Grand Ja'farite Mufti Shaykh 'Abd-al-Amir Qabalan has disclosed that Israel took over the township of Arnun yesterday after destroying its mosque and several houses.

Israeli Overnight Shelling in South Reported

NC2106052292 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
0315 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] Acute tension prevails in the south in light of continuing military operations which periodically turn violent and sometimes abate. Israeli artillery last night bombarded the hills east of Kafr Rumman and the outskirts of Kafr Tibnit.

Planes Fly Over al-Biqā'

NC2106091392 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
0815 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] According to security sources in western al-Biqā', a Hizballah group today detonated an explosive device as an Israeli patrol traveled along a road in al-Na'imah village on the southern edge of the al-Biqā' Valley. The sources said the group then clashed with the patrol, using machine guns and rockets. There are no reports on casualties. The sources added that Israeli helicopters directed a hail of gunfire on the surrounding plains after the attack.

Security sources reported an attack last night on a South Lebanese Army [SLA] post in the eastern sector. The SLA retaliated by firing 20 mortar shells on surrounding areas. There were no reports on casualties.

Afghanistan

Karmal, Dostam Killed in Plane Crash 20 Jun

LD2106210192 Tehran IRNA in English 1854 GMT
21 Jun 92

[Text] Islamabad, June 21, IRNA—A plane carrying Babrak Karmal, former head of the Afghan regime, and 'Abdol Rashid Dostam, commander of Afghan militia forces, crashed near Kabul Saturday [20 June] and its passengers were killed, according to Senator Sami-ul-Haq, secretary general of Pakistan's Ulama Association today.

The plane, he said, was on its way to Kabul from Mazar Sharif and crashed due to an incident. He said the plane had crashed probably due to a "plot hatched in advance by opponents."

According to PPA, the Pakistani Press Agency, quoting Sami-ul-Haq, all the 14 passengers of the plane had been killed. It said Sami-ul-Haq had received the news of the crash from Jaledin Haqani, the head of the Justice Ministry of the provisional Afghan Government.

Sources Deny Dostam Killed

LD2206082392 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian
0730 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Today various Afghan sources denied that General 'Abdol Rashid Dostum, the commander of the paramilitary forces in the north of that country, has been killed in a plane crash. According to our Islamabad correspondent reacting to the reports this morning, the Islamic Unity Party [Hezb-e Wahdat-e Eslami] announced: This report is an utter lie. It is rejected.

The deputy of General Dostum and spokesperson of the Afghan Defense Ministry also categorically denied the death of the commander of paramilitary forces in northern Afghanistan during a plane crash.

Incoming reports indicate that General Dostum himself is due to give a television interview to offer explanations. [passage omitted]

Radicals Warn of Military Action on Mojaddedi

BK1706113292 Hong Kong AFP in English 1129 GMT
17 Jun 92

[By Pratap Chakravarty]

[Text] Kabul, June 17 (AFP)—Holdout Afghan guerrillas warned Wednesday [17 June] that they would resort to military action if interim President Sebghatollah Mojaddedi refuses to step down by the end of the month.

The threat came a day after Mojaddedi strongly rejected participation in his government by holdout mujahedin leader Golboddin Hekmatyar, saying he would seek a mandate from the people on his own tenure.

"The Hezb-e Eslami and other Islamic parties will take united action to suppress him (Mojaddedi) for the good of others," said Ustad Kabir, a spokesman for the fundamentalist party led by Hekmatyar.

"We will have to take military action," he said from the president's office, part of which is under Hezb-e Eslami control.

"He has to accept all accords and our will," Kabir told AFP, referring to a May 25 pact between Hekmatyar and Mojaddedi's defence minister, Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, agreeing to end Mojaddedi's caretaker government on June 28.

The 70-year-old president accused Hekmatyar on Tuesday of violating previous agreements by attacking Kabul just after the April 28 transfer of power from the communists to an Islamic government.

"Hekmatyar has no right to participate in my government," Mojaddedi told a news conference also attended by western, Arab and Asian diplomats. But Kabir dismissed those comments in the AFP interview, saying "It is not a right held by Mojaddedi to give us power. It is not his gift...it is the right of the Afghan people."

Hekmatyar has refused to join the caretaker government, continuing to assert that pro-Mojaddedi Uzbek fighters and other northern Afghan forces must be withdrawn from the besieged city of Kabul.

The firebrand leader, camping at a secret base on the city's southern limits according to party sources, also insists that Mojaddedi's 56-member interim council should relinquish office after the interim president's two-month term expires.

Tensions and clashes resumed here after Mojaddedi's statement, and unofficial reports said mujahedin factions with dubious loyalties were being shifted from the city of 1.5 million people.

Mas'ud, a charismatic guerrilla commander, has instructed his security personnel to stay out of areas occupied by the Hezb-e Eslami because of fears of an armed confrontation, sources said.

Mojaddedi has also been warned against extending his tenure in Kabul by Abdol Rab Rasul Sayyaf, the leader of a pro-Saudi Hezb-e Eslami splinter faction.

The Hekmatyar spokesman said the Islamic parties would unite if Mojaddedi rejected the agreements signed in Kabul and in the Pakistani city of Peshawar calling on him to remain in power for only 60 days.

"We want to put in action our people's will," said Kabir, adding that Hekmatyar, a Pashtun, enjoyed the broad support of the people in multi-ethnic Afghanistan.

Mojaddedi has cemented northern Afghan unity by lavishing money and offices on his military allies,

including the tough Uzbek militia and minority Shiite Moslem fighters, apparently to cement his political base in Kabul.

He has also accused a mujahedin supreme leadership council and its chief, Borhanuddin Rabbani, of violating the Peshawar pact by interfering in his administration.

Joint Security Forces To Guard Buildings 20 Jun

LD1706193192 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network
in Pashto 1530 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] Esteemed Engineer Ahmad Shah [deputy head of Ettehad-e Eslami], deputy prime minister and minister of internal affairs; Mohammad Sediq Chakari [member of the executive committee of Jami'at-e Eslami], acting minister of information and culture; and Mohammad Yaser [member of the executive committee of Ettehad-e Eslami], acting minister of construction; who are also members of the Jihad Council, gave information on the security situation of the city as well as the cultural and construction affairs of the country at a news conference today in Kabul.

At the beginning of the news conference Esteemed Engineer Ahmad Shah shed light on the Peshawar agreements and explained what the Jihad Council and Leadership Council have authorized regarding the approval of major issues of the country and asked all jihadi leaders to respect the Peshawar agreements and act in line with them.

Similarly Esteemed Mohammad Sediq Chakari spoke in the conference on the development programs and on the manner of the transmissions on the bases of jihad spirit and tenets of the sacred religion of Islam and answered journalists' questions.

Esteemed Mohammad Yaser, acting minister of construction, made remarks on the development programs of the Ministry of Construction and mentioned the work done by the Ministry in the period after the success of revolution and the establishment of the Islamic State in Afghanistan.

These ministers emphasized that any step taken in respect of the high interests of the country and important state matters should get the approval of the Leadership Council.

The esteemed deputy prime minister and minister of internal affairs, answering a journalists' question, said that to reassure all compatriots, especially the residents of Kabul, it must be stressed that the Islamic State of Afghanistan never had any intention of fighting and clashing with any organization and it did not do so. The Islamic State of Afghanistan has been established for the tranquillity and prosperity of the people, not for fighting and clashes. The sacred religion of Islam rejects war and we will never resort to it. On the security situation of the city Esteemed Engineer Ahmad Shah, acting minister of internal affairs, said: It has been decided that all state

buildings will be guarded by joint security forces, which are formed from the forces of all jihadi formations under the aegis of the Ministries of Internal Affairs and Defense, as of 20 June. Those jihadi formations which hold various state buildings and areas will leave them.

Hekmatyar Threatens To Forcibly Oust Mojaddedi

PM1906150292 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT
AL-DUWALI in Arabic 18 Jun 92 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Rabbani Accuses Mojaddedi of Violating Peshawar Accord; Hekmatyar Threatens Bloodbath]

[Text] Tehran, SAWT AL-KUWAYT—Golboddin Hekmatyar, leader of Hezb-e Eslami, has stated in a special message to SAWT AL-KUWAYT that he will use force to make Mojaddedi relinquish power at the end of the month. Hekmatyar threatened a huge bloodbath in Kabul if Mojaddedi refuses to transfer power to Burhanuddin Rabbani.

Informed political sources in Kabul said yesterday that the commander of Golboddin Hekmatyar's Hezb-e Eslami was preparing to launch a large-scale military attack to force Afghan President Sebgatollah Mojaddedi to relinquish power.

The sources told SAWT AL-KUWAYT that Ettihadi-e Eslami forces led by Abdorrasul Saiyaf will take part in the attack and that contacts were continuing between the two sides to agree on common ground for military coordination.

This coincides with other information that Mojaddedi apparently intends to remain in power and not to hand over to Jamiat-e Eslami leader Burhanuddin Rabbani, who has entered into a new alliance with the forces of the northern alliance led by Abdorrashid Dostum.

In a statement to SAWT AL-KUWAYT Rabbani vehemently attacked Mojaddedi and accused him of violating the Peshawar accord.

He also said that it was the mujahedin council which set a two-month period for the first transition government so if something else is requested, the matter should be referred to the same mujahedin council.

SAWT AL-KUWAYT has also received information that former President Najibollah is not in Kabul and that he left the capital last month for an unknown destination.

Meanwhile, a field commander has said that the security situation in Kabul is fragile and could explode at any moment.

Hekmatyar: 'Acceptable' Government Does Not Exist

LD1906154992 Tehran IRIB Television First
Program Network in Persian 1430 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] Golboddin Hekmatyar, leader of Afghanistan's Hezb-e Eslami-e Party, gave an exclusive interview to

our correspondent in Kabul. He rejected the plan for the withdrawal of various parties' armed forces from Kabul. He said that an acceptable government does not exist in Afghanistan as yet and that in his opinion the ministers who have been introduced are not legal.

Interim Government Says Peshawar Accord Invalid

LD2006152192 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1430 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] The head of the interim Afghan government, Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, does not intend to hand power over to Rabbani.

According to an IRNA report, a source close to the head of the interim Afghan government announcing the news said: The interim government considers the Peshawar agreement for the transfer of power to be invalid and without executive guarantees because the leaders of Afghan groups, Borhanoddin Rabbani, Golboddin Hekmatyar, and Abdorrasul Sayyaf, have violated it. According to the Peshawar agreement, Mojaddedi must hand over the government to Borhanoddin Rabbani after two months.

Will Not Step Down

LD2006211792 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1930 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] The interim government of Sebghatollah Mojaddedi in Afghanistan has announced that it will not be stepping down from power despite the Peshawar agreement. A source close to Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, the interim Afghan president, said on Saturday [20 June]: The Peshawar agreement has already been broken by Borhanoddin Rabbani, Golboddin Hekmatyar, and Abdolrasul Sayyaf so it is not valid.

The source added: The earlier-than-agreed upon establishment of the Jehadi Council by Borhanoddin Rabbani, as well as his one-sided propaganda on radio and television; the missile attacks on Kabul by Hekmatyar's forces; and the clashes between Sayyaf's forces and the Hezb-e Vahdat-e Eslami [Islamic Unity Party] are three clear instances of the violation of the Peshawar agreement.

The Peshawar agreement was signed by all the leaders of Afghan mujahedin parties and it established the way in which the interim Afghan Government would be formed, as well as its make-up. On the basis of the agreement, Sebghatollah Mojaddedi must hand the government over to Borhanoddin Rabbani after two months.

Islamic Unity Head Comments on Power Transfer

LD2106173792 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Mazari, secretary general of the Islamic Unity Party [IUP; Hezb-e Vahdat-e Eslami],

took part in a news conference in Kabul at noon today in which he answered questions from reporters about current developments in Afghanistan, especially about the transfer of power, holding elections, and the country's future.

According to our reporter in Kabul, the IUP secretary general criticized the irresponsible behavior of some members of Afghanistan's Jihad Council who wish to cast doubt on the legality of the interim government by calling into question the legitimacy and official standing of the representatives of the IUP on the 51-member council and said: The presence of IUP representatives on the Jihad Council came about with the agreement of the majority of the Council's members and with the approval of Mr. Mojaddedi. If the membership of the representatives of the IUP on the council and in the Cabinet are presented as being illegal, the IUP will be forced, in turn, not to officially recognize the interim government and the Jihad Council.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Mazari added: It would be to the advantage of the Afghan Government, nation, and country to prevent the spread of such ideas and views. The IUP secretary general said that any change to the program for the transfer of power, which was approved in the Peshawar agreement, depends on the views of the Jihad Council. In connection with holding elections in Afghanistan, he said: Our country has a great need for a popular government, chosen on the basis of the votes of all the strata of the people and all ethnic groups. For this reason, the ground should be laid as soon as possible for the holding of a free and correct election.

At the end of the news conference, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mazari, the IUP secretary general, described the future prospects of Afghanistan as being very good and noted: We are determined to establish a totally Islamic government in Afghanistan, and we will not spare any effort or sacrifice toward achieving that end.

President Apologizes for Attack on Kabul Indians

BK2106151692 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1430 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] In Afghanistan, the acting president, Mr. Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, today apologized for attacks on Afghans of Indian origin in Kabul. In a statement in Kabul, he blamed his defense minister, Mr. Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, for lack of security. Mr. Mojaddedi said that there is no security in Kabul and that is the reason for attack on Hindu houses.

The president's apology followed a protest lodged by the Indian ambassador, Mr. Vijay Nambiar, yesterday over the incidents involving members of Kabul's Hindu and Sikh population. The government's Foreign Ministry has assured the Indian members that it will strengthen the security for Hindus and Sikhs.

Party Chooses National Security Minister, Others

LD2106174292 Tehran Voice of the Islamic
Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian
1630 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] The Wahdat-e Islami Party [WIP] of Afghanistan has introduced three people as ministers for the ministries for which the party has been asked to appoint ministers. According to a report of the Voice and Vision correspondent from Kabul, the WIP appointed General Khodaydad Khan as minister of national security, Engineer Ya'qub La'li as minister of industries and mines, and Dr. Sarabi as minister of development or inspection [Enkeshaf ya Bazrasi].

India

Prime Minister Reaffirms Nuclear Position

BK2106084292 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 0245 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] The prime minister has reaffirmed that India will not sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty as it is discriminatory in nature. In an interview to a group of Japanese journalists in New Delhi, Mr. Narasimha Rao said India believes in the total elimination of nuclear weapons. He said the country's missile development program is entirely for peaceful purposes. Mr. Rao said the economic reforms introduced by his government have been well received. He said economic liberalization is a continuous process which will take time. On his coming visit to Japan, the prime minister said he will seek to gain better understanding with Japan and identify areas of common interest and mutual benefit.

Rao, Delegation Leave for Visit to Japan

BK2206042292 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 0245 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] The prime minister is arriving in Tokyo this morning on a five-day official visit. He will be given a formal reception tomorrow morning. Thereafter, Mr. Rao will have talks with the Japanese prime minister, Mr. Miyazawa, and his cabinet colleagues and have an audience with Emperor Akihito. Mr. Rao, who is accompanied by the minister of state for external affairs, Mr. Eduardo Faleiro; the foreign secretary, Mr. J.N. Dixit; and the secretary, Economic Affairs, Mr. Montague Singh Aluwalia; will also have business meetings with chief executives of Japan's corporate giants. Leading businessmen from India and Japan are having a meeting in Tokyo today on industrial and trade relations. The meeting is expected to help identify joint venture projects for Japanese investment in India. The prime minister's visit assumes significance in view of the fact that it coincides with the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Japan.

Japanese Official Denies Linking Aid to NPT

BK1906165492 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 1530 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] Japan today denied that it has linked its development assistance to India with the signing of Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Reacting to a report from Tokyo, the minister [as heard] for economics in the Japanese Embassy, Mr. (R. Ishui), told newsmen in New Delhi that there is no such indication from his government. Describing the report as a distorted version of Japan's policy, he said his country finds no specific development in the field of nuclear capability with India to warrant such linkage. On the other hand, he said that the new liberalized economic policy in India has become a strong point for strengthening bilateral ties.

The External Affairs Ministry spokesman also told newsmen in New Delhi that the report on the linkage is not based on any authenticated information.

Strike Affects Operations at Atomic Reactors

BK1206131892 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 1230 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Text] At the Bhabha Atomic Research Center [BARC], operations of all the three atomic reactors—Cirus, Apsara and Dhruwa, have been suspended since yesterday due to labor trouble. A BARC official said in Bombay that negotiations are on with the group of operators who went on an indefinite strike. A strict vigil is being maintained at the scientific reactors by BARC internal security personnel.

Cirus Reactor Resumes Operations

BK1806033692 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 0245 GMT 18 Jun 92

[Text] The Bombay-based Dhruwa atomic reactor resumed its operation after a week. The operations were suspended because of labor strike. The operation of the 40-megawatt Cirus atomic reactor, however, still remains suspended. Negotiations are continuing with the workers to resume the functioning of the reactor.

Missile Technology Control Regime Viewed

LD2006123292 Tehran IRNA in English 1046 GMT
17 Jun 92

["Why India Should Not Join the MTCR?"—IRNA headline]

[Text] New Delhi, June 20, OANA-IRNA—Some strategic analysts believe that the punitive trade sanctions imposed by the U.S. Government on the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), for the proposed cryogenic rocket motor deal with the Russian Glavkosmos, could have been avoided if India had become party to the multilateral Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), says R Ramachandram, writing for 'THE ECONOMIC TIMES'.

Is it true?

To answer that question we need to look at the framework of the MTCR more closely than has been in evidence in various commentaries that have been written following the recent developments relating to India. This raises the question: What is MTCR and what is meant by being party to it?

Formulated on April 16, 1987, and initially agreed upon by the USA and its six major trading partners (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the UK), it consists of a set of common export policy guidelines applied to a common list of controlled items, called the annex.

These guidelines of the MTCR seek to prevent proliferation of missiles and delivery systems capable of carrying at least a 500 kg payload over a distance of at least 300 km.

These parameters, according to a US official statement, 'correspond to the weight of a relatively unsophisticated nuclear weapon'.

The MTCR is described as a 'voluntary arrangement among countries which share a common interest in arresting missile proliferation'. It is also not an exercise in keeping the 'have-not' countries from obtaining the same weapon systems for their own security that are enjoyed by the 'have' countries.

It is thus not a discriminatory arrangement like the NPT [Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty].

A fact sheet released in 1987 stated that other countries capable of exporting missile related technology should be encouraged to 'adhere' to the MTCR guidelines and there seems to be a clear distinction between 'MTCR members' and 'MTCR adherent'.

Though a clear definition of an MTCR member is not available, that of an MTCR 'adherent' is.

According to the U.S. Government's National Defence Authorisation Act (NDAA), which provides for some exemptions for MTCR adherents from punitive actions, an MTCR adherent means 'a country that participates in the MTCR or that, pursuant to an international understanding to which the U.S. is a party, controls MTCR equipment or technology in accordance with the criteria and standards set forth in the MTCR'.

This definition is centred around the U.S. perception, but since the U.S. is the mastermind behind the MTCR, this is likely to be the consensus definition of all the members.

In the light of this it does not seem possible that India, if it so wishes, can become an MTCR member. But can it become an adherent? The NDAA also refers to the 27-nation Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG).

The NSG was formed in 1975 after the Pokharan explosion—the first of India's nuclear tests, and comprises

most of the world's major suppliers of nuclear equipment who are also NPT Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty signatories.

The NPT in itself does not require its signatories to institute specific export control measures except as implicit through treaty commitments.

The NSG met for the first time after its inception in May 1991. It announced recently on April 3, a set of guidelines putting limits on exports of nuclear-related 'dual-use' items.

Clearly, there is no question of India being admitted into the NSG unless it signs the NPT which is, however, ruled out.

What the U.S. demands is that (free world) countries like India should upgrade national export controls, licensing procedures and enforcement capabilities to include some or all of the characteristics of an effective 'Western European style' export control system.

What this exactly means is unclear. Through the 1984 Indo-US memorandum of understanding, the U.S. Government has got some procedures instituted in India in return for access to some high technology items.

But these have not been all non-intrusive. U.S. observers have been involved in some cases, while in others U.S. personnel have been stationed for on-site inspection (Cray Supercomputer for weather-forecasting, for instance).

The question, therefore, is how serious are such intrusions and whether India is prepared for such monitoring in return for becoming an MTCR adherent.

What does this mean for India?

Going by available evidence, India could end up being a loser for it could mean dismantling some of its programmes which are perceived by the U.S. and other Western nations to be linked to missile development.

According to the MTCR, for items of greatest sensitivity in the annex (category I-cryogenic motor belongs under this), 'there will be a strong presumption to deny such transfers' except on rare occasions where some bilateral assurances between governments ensure that the item will be used only for stated end-use.

Also, the NDAA sanctions do make a distinction between an MTCR adherent and a non-adherent. Sanctions can be waived in case such entities (supplier and receiver) are located in MTCR adherent countries.

While one could argue that India could become an adherent and give such assurances, India may not really stand to gain in terms of technology access and freedom to pursue strategic RD programmes.

The countries whose individual entities have been sanctioned against under the NDAA, like ISRO and Glavkosmos, have been China, Pakistan, South Africa, North

Korea and Iran. (The Isro-Glavkosmos deal seems to be the first case of ex-ante sanctions before the transfer actually took place.)

Lifting of sanctions against two Chinese companies for transfer of missile technology to Pakistan is under consideration after China's promise in Feb. 1992 to adhere by the MTCR guidelines.

For countries which are not party to international agreements but enter into bilateral agreements over national security and foreign policy concerns, the NDAA grants treatment exports of missile related technology to such countries as if they are MTCR adherents.

In fact, U.S.'s national security and foreign policy interests in the Middle East would seem to be the main rationale for Israel being an MTCR adherent.

But the latest move by the U.S. Bureau of Export Administration, which requires U.S. exporters to obtain validated licences (VLS) to export any item to missile related projects in 20-odd countries, appears to be somewhat absurd. For the countries whose projects have been listed include Brazil, China, Argentina, Pakistan, North Korea, Iran, South Africa and India.

As regards the last five, sanctions are already in force and the move can perhaps be rationalised. But Argentina is an MTCR adherent and has abolished its Condor Programme, and Brazil and China have agreed to abide by MTCR guidelines.

This means that even if a country is an MTCR adherent, but does not fit into US foreign policy designs, the U.S. can impose trade and export sanctions and deny technology.

Therefore, even if India became an MTCR adherent, since it is not a U.S. satellite and neither an Israel, not only may it forego missile development programmes but also ISRO's launcher programmes. Moreover, there is no guarantee that it will gain access to technology.

Iran

Baker Says U.S. Prepared To Negotiate Issues

LD2106166192 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] Washington once again announced its willingness to hold direct talks with Iran.

Yesterday U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, during an interview with a CNN correspondent, said: We are prepared to sit around the negotiating table face to face with Iranian officials and discuss various issues with them.

This is the second time in the past few days that U.S. officials expressed that country's willingness to hold direct talks with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Velayati Attends UN Disarmament Conference

Cites 'Biased Behavior'

LD1806111792 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 18 Jun 92

[Telephone report from Geneva by unidentified correspondent]

[Text] Heading a diplomatic delegation, Foreign Minister Velayati arrived in Geneva last night to participate in the UN disarmament conference.

In a speech at the Geneva disarmament session this morning, Mr. Velayati said: The biased behavior of the Security Council in crisis situations has severely undermined the credibility of that organization, so that governments can no longer rely on its decisions when their security, sovereignty, and territorial integrity are threatened.

He added: The Security Council's two opposing positions on the acts of aggression against Iran and Kuwait are too obvious to ever be overlooked or forgotten. He called on the disarmament conference to strive for destroying nuclear weapons in countries that possess them by the year 2000. Similar undertakings should also be made by all countries not to obtain or proliferate nuclear weapons or to add them to their existing arsenals.

About controlling and destroying chemical weapons, he stated: We strive for the total destruction of chemical weapons. It is surprising that when our people were victims of such weapons very little international attention was given to this. Even under the worst conditions we refrained from obtaining such bestial weapons. Deadly weapons were used against us up to the final stages of the war.

He asked the disarmament conference, for the sake of attaining a Middle East free of nuclear arms and weapons of mass destruction, to have all of Israel's nuclear facilities be supervised by the International Atomic Energy Agency and to have Israel join the biological weapons convention.

He called on the disarmament conference to make definite decisions about regulating the import and export of various weapons.

Addresses POW, Afghan Refugee Issues

NC1906111292 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0330 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] Sadako Ogata, head of the United Nations Office of High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR], met yesterday afternoon with Foreign Minister Velayati at the Iranian Embassy in Geneva. Our correspondent in Geneva reports about the details of this meeting:

[Begin recorded telephone report by unidentified correspondent] During this meeting, Velayati pointed out the

need for the UNHCR to pay more attention to the humanitarian aspects of the Afghan refugees' issue and to facilitate their return to their country. Our foreign minister also referred to the regrettable situation of the Myanmar [Burmese] Muslim refugees and the difficult conditions faced by Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina and said: Iran will do its best to assist these refugees as one of its Islamic and humanitarian duties and hopes that the world community will pay effective attention to this important issue.

Ogata thanked Iran for supporting the Afghan refugees and described Iran's attention to the Iraqi Kurdish refugees as important. [end recording]

Our correspondent in Geneva also reports that yesterday afternoon International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement [IRCRCM] President Sommaruga met with Velayati. During this visit, the foreign minister stressed Iran's concern and eagerness about receiving information about the fate of the remaining Iranian POW's in Iraq and called for further IRCRCM efforts to end this long waiting period. The IRCRCM president listed the duties of the organization on POW affairs and expressed hope that continuing the exchange of Iranian POW's will end Iran's worries.

Meets Azerbaijani Foreign Minister

LD2006172292 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Political and economic issues and expanding bilateral relations were discussed in this afternoon's meetings between Mr. Velayati and the Latvian and Estonian presidents.

Also, Mr. Tofik Gasymov, the Azerbaijani foreign minister, met and held talks with Mr. Velayati this morning. Our country's foreign minister expressed his hope that peace and calm would return to the Karabakh region soon and that the Republics of Azerbaijan and Armenia reach a lasting peace.

Denies Attempts To Produce Bomb

LD2106113892 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in English 1030 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] The Islamic Republic of Iran's foreign minister, 'Ali Akbar Velayati, has rejected the rumors that Iran is trying to produce a nuclear bomb by the end of this century.

Addressing reporters, Mr. Velayati said: We categorically deny these accusations. He said Iran's gates are open to international inspectors to see the country's nuclear facilities, and the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] recently stressed that Iran does not have the needed hardware and equipment to produce nuclear bombs.

He added: One expects Israel to provide the IAEA with such possibility to inspect its installations.

Mr. Velayati has already said in the Geneva conference on disarmament that Israel now has nuclear warheads. He added: The Jewish government's refusal to sign the treaty on nuclear proliferation is a serious issue for the Middle East. He said Israel must destroy its chemical and biological weapons. Mr. Velayati added: It is then that we can move towards a Middle East free of all mass killing weapons.

Velayati once again repeated Iran's invitation and called for destruction of all nuclear weapons throughout the world by the year 2000.

Remarks on Swiss Businessman Case

LD2106115592 Bern Swiss Radio International in English 1100 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati says it is up to Iranian justice to deal with the case of a Swiss businessman, Hans Bueller, detained in March for having illegal contacts with Iranian officials.

Mr. Velayati, speaking at an international forum in the Swiss resort of Crans Montana, said his ministry was arranging further diplomatic visits to Mr. Bueller.

The minister met the state secretary at the Swiss Foreign Ministry, Jakob Kellenberger, in Crans Montana on Friday to discuss the strain in Swiss-Iranian relations over the past six months.

Khamene'i Remarks on 'Oppressive Powers,' Justice

LD2006144192 Tehran IRNA in English 1011 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] Tehran, June 20, IRNA—The leader of the Islamic Republic, Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i, today said the oppressive powers were opposed and hostile to Iran "because we are for justice."

"Today, our Islamic community wants the institutionalization of justice among all nations and human beings irrespective of their race, color, and religion. But the superpowers who have founded their entity on bullying, expansionism and occupation of the living environment of (other) nations, cannot tolerate the fulfillment of such a demand."

The leader, who was speaking at a gathering of top officials of the country, further accused the big powers of "doing all within their power to isolate the Islamic Republic and deal a blow on it." Their campaign, he said, is made in all propaganda, political and economic areas "and this shows their fear of Islamic justice which the great Iranian nation proclaims."

The meeting with the leader took place on the occasion of Ghadir-e Khom feast (the day of appointment of Imam 'Ali (peace be upon him, the first Shiite imam, by the prophet (pbuh) as his successor).

Among the visitors were President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, members of his cabinet, the imam's son, Majles speaker, members of the Council of Guardians, of the Expediency Council, of the Qom Theological School, of the combatant ulama society and combatant ulama association, Majles deputies, and military commanders, etc.

The leader said man's problem today was "lack of justice" and urged those dealing with the public fund to avoid extravagancy and spending money on things not related to the public. He stressed that utilization of the public fund for use by an official, his friends and close associates is a violation of justice.

Ayatollah Khamene'i also called for refrainment from bureaucratic procedures and creation of useless organizations and pleaded with the officials to safeguard the public fund.

On the impacts of the Islamic revolution on the justice-loving nations, he said, "The resistance of our Muslim nation against tyranny and cruelty of dominating powers, brought oppressed nations into the scene of campaign against arrogance."

He said the nations had now realized that resistance and reliance on Islamic criteria and values was the only way to overcome tyranny, aggression, and violation of arrogance.

The leader said welfare, real prosperity and security for a nation would materialize with belief in God and divine values.

"Our nation is honorable and independent today and is not under the influence of any alien policy. Our efficient forces are ready for work and planning for the progress of the country."

Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili Leads Friday Prayers

Speaks of 'Refining Human Life'

LD1906115492 *Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian*
0930 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] The political-religious rites of Friday prayers were held today in Tehran and other cities in a most magnificent way.

In his first sermon, the provisional Friday prayers leader of Tehran, Musavi-Ardabili, stated that divine schools, especially the Islamic school, attach a great deal of importance to spirituality and spiritual values in social life. He then added that commitment by all the Muslims and Monotheists to spirituality is the best means of refining human life of all impurities.

In the second sermon of the prayer, meanwhile, the provisional Tehran Friday prayer imam initially remembered the self-sacrifices and bravery of martyr Mostafa

Chamran [former defense minister] in his fruitful life and praised that sincere soldier and guardian of the path of God.

Then Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili offered his congratulations to his holiness the lord of the age, may God hasten his honorable appearance, as well as to his eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution, the people of Iran, and all the world Shiahs and Muslims. He also explained the important Ghadir Khom historic event and its vital role in determining the fate of Muslims and their salvation.

Marking Ghadir Khom, he elaborated about delicate points of the Sacred Quranic Verses from al-Ma'yedah [The Table] chapter about the honorable prophet, peace be on him and his scion, conferring divine-sponsored guardianship on his holiness 'Ali ibn-e 'Abi-Talib, peace be on him, at Ghadir Khom.

About Velayat-e-Faqih, meanwhile, Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili stated: Appointing a deputy to the immaculate imam, which is the same as Velayat-e-Faqih, is also by God; the difference, however, being that God's appointing an immaculate Imam is particular to a person who is specifically named, while God's appointing the Velayat-e-Faqih is a general appointment. And that point is also included in the constitutional law of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Speaks on Helping Poor

LD1906145892 *Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian*
1030 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Second Friday prayer sermon by Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili in Tehran on 19 June—recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] When I was thinking of coming here today and talking about His Holiness 'Ali, I was reminded of two problems from the beginning of the revolution, and I thought, to mark the occasion, of telling you about them also.

At the beginning of the revolution we were faced with a chaotic community wrought by the hands of the idol [taghut]. There was a north to the city and a south. The clean streets, lovely cars, and most extensive services belonged to those in the north of the city. The sewage and the broken down and useless cars belonged to the south dwellers. At that time, we used to think that when, God willing, the Islamic system establishes itself, it will not do the same. Then it was usual for us. We used to see a huge house and next to it a shanty dweller, next to it a hovel dweller. We used to say: O God, can an Islamic republic system be established here and such heartrending scenes be cleared away?

Thank God, right now our authorities are working hard. They promise. They have, maybe, solved a few problems; they want to solve more problems, and our duty is to pray. We pray that God gives us His blessing, assistance.

But we have two problems: One is that there is something that will not happen no matter how much our economy, our economic problems are resolved. It will not be resolved. And this is it. In Tehran, in the city of Tehran, we have 40,000, 50,000, 60,000, and 100,000 square meter private gardens, houses. I am talking about private ones. These need water, electricity and services. Probably only a man and his dog live there. Beside this we have 50, 70 square meter houses where three families live with seven or eight children. What should we do about this? Look, if our government, our authorities, perform a miracle in one night and resolve all the economic problems, this is not resolvable. This is not their fault. They cannot change 100 hectares of land to 200 hectares or 500 hectares. But our lawmakers, those who care for us, can tell the people: those who plan to build private houses should not make them larger than 150 square meters, 200 meters, 300 meters, 500 meters—I haven't a clue, this needs expertise—1,000 meters so that Tehran is big enough for everyone.

Immigration on the one hand, excessive population on the other. Those houses, those gardens: and private at that. Let them take those and make them public; let all make use of them. Let the same man make use of them as well as the others. Just like the traffic in the streets. They should take away private cars and replace them with public ones. I am saying this as an example. Six people ride in a public car but only one in a private car. Obviously there will be traffic.

If this happens, God willing, within one year, two years, three years, and five years—I do not say that this should be done today. I say that we should move toward this so that we can depict the future in such a way. If we do this, to a certain extent we, we were on the way to, we wanted to go at the beginning—the damned imposed war created that hassle—then we will have pursued this matter.

The second problem—because I want to mention this—is the water and electricity rates. I remember that right at the beginning, the imam ordered: Do not take water and electricity rates from the needy. The government said: well, this cannot be. Where can we find the means? They want electricity and water, and they don't pay either. Where can we find the payments? Then they had a thought: They said up to a certain level, those who want just one light bulb, two light bulbs, three light bulbs, and those who, for example, want very little water, at a certain level, a reasonable level. They should not be asked to pay at all or only asked to pay a little amount. The amount was not to be increased. And in the middle course, ask for the actual rates, but in the highest levels—those who, thank God, have—increase their rates. Take the payments for the needy from them. There is no harm in this. It was supposed to have been done

then. But I do not know why it did not happen. Maybe they conducted a study and found it impossible. If they conducted such a study, I do not remember now. But those who have money for electricity and water at a low level have not the means to pay more.

Our respected, beloved authorities, God willing, are thinking about this. Let them think about it more. This is what I had to say. [passage omitted]

Daily Says Western Hostages Could Be Seized

NC2106112692 Paris AFP in English 1045 GMT
21 Jun 92

[Text] Tehran, June 21 (AFP) - An influential Tehran newspaper warned Sunday [21 June] that pro-Iranian kidnappers in Lebanon could seize more Western hostages if the situation in the Middle East remains unchanged.

"If the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people are not officially recognized, if Israel continues its aggressions on other countries in the region, if the West blindfoldedly and unconditionally supports such aggressions, the German hostages undoubtedly will not be the last batch of Western hostages held by Lebanese groups," the TEHRAN TIMES said.

The English-language daily close to the Iranian Government was referring to last Wednesday's release in Beirut of German aid workers Thomas Kemptner and Heinrich Struebig, the last Western hostages in Lebanon.

It also stressed that three Iranian diplomats and their driver were still missing in Lebanon, and that Israel was holding hundreds of Lebanese and Palestinians.

"All Western countries in the course of negotiations with high-ranking Iranian officials claimed to use everything at their disposal to secure the release of Iranian and Lebanese hostages in a reciprocal manner," it said.

Calls For Release of Others

LD2106171392 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT
21 Jun 92

[Text] Tehran, June 21, IRNA—The English daily TEHRAN TIMES today called for the release of Shaykh 'Ubayd, the Friday prayer leader of Jibshit, Southern Lebanon, who was kidnapped by Israeli commandoes in 1989, as well Iranian hostages in Lebanon. It said with the release of the latest Western hostages (two Germans) in Lebanon, the time had come for the release of the other hostages.

Heinrich Struebig and Thomas Kemptner, two Germans held hostage by Lebanese groups for three years, were released last Wednesday.

The fate of the three Iranians kidnapped in Beirut in the early '80s is still unknown. Apparently, contradictory news is released with respect to this issue.

Some information speak of the martyrdom of these three at the hands of Phalange groups in the course of Lebanon's civil war. Other news reports indicate that they are still living but are kept as hostages in contravention of all international regulations specifying diplomatic immunity to such officials.

TEHRAN TIMES said when Iran exerted spiritual influence to secure the release of Western hostages held in Lebanon, all Western countries in the course of negotiations with high-ranking Iranian officials or by way of messages sent to Iran through embassies maintaining their interest claimed to use everything at their disposal to secure the release of Iranian and Lebanese hostages in a reciprocal manner.

Informed political observers, however, do not trust the promises made in this connection, it said, adding that these baseless promises with regard to the issues and problems of the Middle East have for years become a part of the Western—and especially American—foreign diplomacy.

"A cursory glance at the Middle East related statements cited by the U.S. presidents from the time of General Eisenhower to the time of George Bush elucidates the hollowness of such promises.

"Without a tinge of doubt, the White House admits that Iran does not wield a greater degree of influence on the combatant Lebanese groups than that the U.S. has over the Phalanxes and Israel.

"If the Middle East problem is not justly resolved, if the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people are not officially recognised, if Israel is to continue its aggressions on other countries of the region, if the West blindfoldedly and unconditionally supports such aggressions, the German hostages undoubtedly will not be the last batch of Western hostages held by Lebanese groups.

"It is however, our hope that these individuals would be the last hostages released in the Middle East."

Nonaligned News Agencies Pool Ends Conference

NC2006075992 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0330 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Recorded telephone report by unidentified correspondent]

[Text] In its closing session, which continued throughout last night and into this morning, the Sixth General Conference of the Nonaligned News Agencies Pool [NANAP] in Tehran approved a 36-point program on NANAP's policies over the next three years, as well as several resolutions. The conference ended at 0330 today [19 Jun] after making some changes in its program and including new paragraphs on the Golan Heights and on supporting the liberation of Kuwait in the draft of the original 34-point program.

The NANAP conference approved a resolution on Bosnia-Herzegovina, in which it expresses concern about the massacre of civilians and about foreign forces preventing foodstuffs and medicine from reaching the Republic, and calls on all NANAP members to increase their coverage of the current situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina so that the world and appropriate international bodies can take immediate steps to rectify the tragic situation.

The conference also emphasized the need for extensive coverage of the environment. It also approved a resolution on strengthening NANAP and called for the creation of an international fund to assist with training journalists and with facilities for covering international events such as the upcoming Nonaligned summit.

The NANAP conference also called on its members to help strengthen Afghanistan's BAKHTAR news agency. A draft resolution by Iraq on extending technical assistance to INA, however, was rejected.

In its concluding session, the NANAP conference issued another resolution, in which deep gratitude is expressed to the Iranian press and the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the extensive international coverage of the conference and for their serious approach and commitment through open and accurate reporting about Nonaligned countries.

Issues Program of Action

LD2006140592 Tehran IRNA in English 0905 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] Tehran, June 20, IRNA—The 6th General Conference of the Nonaligned News Agencies Pool (NANAP) ended six days of deliberations Friday evening by issuing the 'Tehran programme of action' as well as several resolutions.

During the session, the managing director of the Indonesian News Agency (ANTARA) briefed the audience on the facilities provided for the news coverage of the 10th summit meet of the Nonaligned Movement [NAM] to be held in Jakarta in September. He also urged the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), as the pool chairman for the next three years, to do its best for an appropriate coverage of the NAM summit.

Bahrain was chosen as the venue of the 17th session of the pool coordinating committee to be held next year. Mongolia will be the next host of the coordinating committee which is held annually.

The text of the 'Tehran program of action' follows:

1. The establishment of the Nonaligned News Agencies Pool on January 20, 1975, and its survival is a tangible evidence of the collective commitment of the member countries of the Nonaligned Movement as well as their respective news agencies to the cause of a new international information and communications order.

2. This multilateral news exchange arrangement is also the realisation of the collective desire and determination of these countries, as well as their respective news agencies, to disseminate news reports of their own and of the rest of the world on the basis of the highest professional standards and the principles of professional ethics.

3. NANAP has continuously tried to apply a combination of professional criteria, on the one hand, and the fundamental principles of non-alignment, *inter alia*, respect for the independence, national sovereignty, cultural identity and religious values of all countries and peoples, the negation of colonialism and imperialism in their old and new—overt and covert—guises, hegemony, racism, apartheid and foreign interference in the affairs of other nations, the settlement of bilateral, regional and international disputes through peaceful means, and efforts to achieve global peace and professional operation.

4. Countering misinformation and disinformation campaigns as well as the conspiracy of silence devised by the transnational media concerning the development of the non-aligned and other developing countries has been one of the prime concerns and objectives of NANAP since its inception.

5. The participants in NANAP are of the belief that non-alignment in substance is the assumption of a positive, active and independent position by the non-aligned countries on questions of foreign policy, the manifestation of their collective desire and determination to establish a new international order on the basis of freedom, equality, fraternity and justice, and the preservation and safeguarding and promotion of the fundamental rights of man at the individual and collective levels.

6. Despite recent and current developments in international relations, the pool participants are convinced that, due to the widening gap between the poor and the rich, the perpetuation of colonialism, neocolonialism and new imperialism, foreign threats to and interference in the sovereignty, territorial integrity and national security of independent states, the existing imbalances in the prevailing world economic order, the inequalities and injustice in terms of international trade imposed on the underdeveloped and developing countries by the rich industrialised states, and the current imbalance in the prevailing international information and communications order, to mention but a few, the original imperatives for the establishment of the Nonaligned Movement are still as relevant as ever.

In view of the disintegration of the general structure of the formerly unjust order dominating international relations and with regard to the falsification of a considerable number of parameters determining the power assessment of states, NANAP is convinced that the dominant powers in the former international order intend to abuse the current conditions and resort to

various measures to impose a new order on the world's people which would guarantee the perpetuation of their illegitimate interests.

This is why the man of the south, aware of the prevailing injustices of the former order, considers the very foundations and operational rules of the former order detrimental to his cultural identity, values and interests. Thus, he would naturally welcome any change in the previously imposed order in the hope of a more promising future.

8. [as received] Realising the inevitability of overall elaborate changes and developments in world politics, NANAP took note of the historical fact that most of the handicaps in the general and operational rules of the previous global systems and contemporary world history had been due to lack of active participation by the majority of the world's people and non-utilisation of the actual and potential capacities of the countries of the south in the process of the formation and subsequent functioning of the said systems.

While insisting on the necessity of collective commitment to the authentic objectives and motivations of non-alignment, NANAP would welcome any change in international relations, promising a more just, peaceful and prosperous future within the framework of a new international order representing the legitimate rights of the majority of the inhabitants of the world.

9. NANAP is of the opinion that, besides adhering to its own authentic objectives, it assumes a new significant historical mission to further illuminate public opinion of the peoples of the non-aligned and other developing countries about the relevant facts and to facilitate the wide and active participation of all developing countries in the shaping of a new international order.

10. NANAP underlines that access to impartial, unbiased and objective information by the entire world's people and the opportunity to disseminate the same about oneself is an essential condition for the elimination of misunderstanding, distrust and ignorance of others as well as being an indispensable contribution to the safeguarding and promotion of global peace and security.

11. NANAP places emphasis on the vital role played by objective, balanced information in drawing up appropriate development programmes for the non-aligned and other developing countries, based on their genuine needs, priorities and actual as well as potential capacities and capabilities.

12. Taking note of the main objectives behind the establishment of the Nonaligned Movement and inspired by the decisions adopted at the ministerial meeting of the co-ordinating bureau of the non-aligned movement, held in Bali on May 14 and 15, 1992, the 6th General Conference reaffirmed NANAP's commitment

and allegiance to the validity of the basic principles of non-alignment in the context of the new era of international relations.

The Tehran Conference further renewed NANAP's original obligation to be a genuine and truthful conveyor and promoter of the non-aligned ideals in its professional activities.

13. Though pleased with the technological progress made in the domain of information and communications, the Conference expressed its profound concern over the subsequent implications and side-effects of technological developments in further intensifying the imbalances in the existing world information-communications order.

14. The Conference took note of the devastating consequences of the operational policies of the dominant world information-communications order for the exercise of political, cultural, social, legal and economic sovereignty by the non-aligned countries, basically in the denial of their legitimate and natural right to inform and to be informed in an objective, unbiased and balanced manner.

15. Expressing deep concern over the destabilising impact of the uncommitted and irresponsible deployment of modern technological innovations in the field of telecommunications, such as regional and global satellite transmissions by the industrialised powers, on the cultural identity and accepted social traditions as well as the ideological norms and values of the world's people, the Conference denounces the misuse of technological innovations that are detrimental to the maintenance of the foreign policy interests and objectives of the concerned countries.

16. The Conference invited active participation by the intelligentsia, writers, artists and cultural institutions of the developing countries in order to adopt appropriate measures to foil the vicious attempts aimed at alienating the peoples of these countries from their own authentic cultural roots.

17. The Conference deplored the use of such media as books, magazines, movies, recorded tapes, radio and television as means of insulting the ideological convictions and cultural and religious values of peoples throughout the world.

18. The brain drain from the developing countries is a neocolonial phenomenon which results in the devastation of this group of countries and adversely affects the strength and progress of the host countries.

Expressing deep concern over the perpetuation of this trend, the conference urgently called on the pool agencies to widely cover the positive and constructive initiatives undertaken at the national and collective levels to preserve, attract and facilitate the return of scientists and

experts to their original homelands in the developing countries in order to assist and strengthen such initiatives.

19. Highlighting the prominent role and active participation of women in social, cultural, economic, educational and political life as well as in the implementation of development programs in the non-aligned and other developing countries, the pool participants denounced the transnational media's inhuman, business-oriented policy of projecting a vulgar picture of typical modern women which, according to internationally accepted norms of ethics and the fundamental principles of human rights is the greatest insult to the human character and high [word indistinct] of women.

Moreover, as a necessity, they agreed to intensify their news coverage of the active participation of women in all the afore-mentioned fields in their respective countries.

20. Inspired by the philosophy and principles of non-alignment, NANAP stresses its commitment to basic human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development and progress. It further expresses its pleasure over the increasing focus of world public opinion on this issue and urges all participating agencies to intensify their professional efforts to promote this cause.

However, in accordance with its position regarding the need to adopt a balanced, consistent approach towards the various dimensions of human, economic, social, political, civil and welfare rights and in view of the fact that the expressions and implementation of those rights are primarily in the national jurisdiction of the countries of the world, NANAP deplores the abusive, selective and discriminatory approach of the Western powers and media towards the human rights issue as a means for justifying and achieving their political ends.

21. To counter the disinformation and misinformation plot as well as the conspiracy of silence of the world transnational media against the people struggling for national liberation, recognition and the safeguarding of their right to self-determination, sovereignty and the preservation of their cultural identity, NANAP shall strive to intensify its efforts in providing maximum coverage of such events in order to further enlighten world public opinion about the facts.

22. The conference reiterated NANAP's professional commitment to the cause of Palestine and urged all the pool agencies to give wide and steady coverage to heroic uprising (intifada) of the Palestinian people against the ruthless Zionist rule and for the establishment of a Palestinian state in all the occupied lands.

23. Congratulating the people of Lebanon for their success in restoring institutional legality in that country, the conference saluted the resistance of the courageous people of Lebanon against the Zionist aggressive moves in the southern part of that country and called on all the

pool agencies to further intensify their professional activities to help the cause of Lebanese territorial integrity.

The conference called upon the member agencies to faithfully report on the persisting Israeli occupation of Golan heights with the hope that such reportage will lead to withdrawal of Israeli occupation of Golan heights.

24. The conference congratulated the people of Africa and the organisation of African unity in general and the people of South Africa in particular for the successes they have achieved so far in their struggle against apartheid.

The conference further reaffirmed NANAP's commitment to continue extending its professional support to the people of South Africa until the complete eradication of the apartheid system in both its overt and covert forms had been achieved in that country.

25. The conference expressed its heartfelt congratulations to the heroic Muslim people of Afghanistan for their great victory in liberating their homeland from domination of aliens and internal dependent elements and in restoring the independence, sovereignty, freedom and territorial integrity of that country.

The conference also extended its best wishes for the further success of the Afghan people in setting up an all-embracing government based on the people's votes, lasting peace, and the stability, reconstruction and progress of their Islamic country.

26. The Conference congratulated the peoples of Yemen and Cambodia for the unification of their homeland and for the restoration of peace and institutional legality in their country, respectively.

The conference welcomes the liberation of Kuwait as a positive development in the world and urges news pool members to give adequate coverage to all human endeavours towards peace and welfare.

The conference reaffirmed its full support to the Korean people's struggle to reunify their homeland through direct negotiations on the basis of the principles of independence, peaceful reunification and national unity.

The conference hailed the advance of the process of integration of the peoples of Latin America as stated in the Guadalajara Summit Conference. It expressed its denunciation of and concern over the exacerbation of the blockade to which Cuba is subjected, whose continuation harms and limits this new process in Latin America. Therefore, the conference urged the pool to keep a close watch on information, so as to make public opinion aware of this unfair situation, which violates the most fundamental principles of international law.

Pool participating agencies should continue to extensively and objectively cover human sufferings wherever they occur, particularly in Iraq and Libya and mobilise

public opinion to remove such human sufferings, particularly sufferings to children.

27. Welcoming widespread world developments, the Conference expressed its pleasure with and extended its warm congratulations to the newly independent states in Asia and Europe. Moreover it entrusted the chairman of the co-ordinating committee with exploring the possibility of establishing direct professional cooperation between NANAP and the national news agencies of the said countries.

28. Conscious of the fact that the 6th General Conference of NANAP is taking place in the Islamic Republic of Iran, a non-aligned country having the largest territory and highest population in this part of Asia as well as the longest coastline on the Persian Gulf, the participants in the conference admired the collective desire of the peoples and governments of this significant geopolitical region of the world to maintain security and peace through regional cooperation, relying on their own resources. Furthermore, they deplored the imperialist attempts and conspiracies to disturb the peaceful atmosphere of the region as a pretext for the presence of alien military forces.

29. Inspired by the principles of non-alignment, which inter alia, provide for close ties and cooperation and recourse to collective self-reliance among the developing countries, the Conference saluted the joint initiative of the summit conference of the Economic Cooperation Organisation that was held in Tehran, February 16-17, 1992, to enlarge the territorial scope of the Organisation's activities by admitting new members and extended its warm wishes for the successful implementation of the joint projects of this regional cooperation arrangement.

30. The Conference renewed the appreciation of NANAP to the United Nations and its subsidiary bodies, such as UNESCO and the IPDC, for the invaluable moral and material assistance extended for the inception and subsequent operation of this multilateral news exchange arrangement and repeated its denunciation of the pressures imposed to certain powers upon the United Nations subsidiary bodies particularly UNESCO, in order to undermine their global legitimacy and efficiency.

In this regard, the conference reiterated NANAP's commitment to help further strengthen the United Nations professional activities.

31. The conference applauded the United Nations' initiative to declare the last decade of the 20th century the decade for the eradication of colonialism and pledged to stage an elaborate professional campaign in association with the United Nations department of public information and other concerned international fora to publicise the issue to the maximum extent worldwide.

32. Saluting the initiative to hold the World Summit for Children at United Nations Headquarters on September

30, 1990, the conference expressed its deep concern over the plight of millions of innocent children and young adults subjected to the side-effects and syndromes of poverty and social and cultural deficiencies throughout the world.

The pool participants committed themselves to assist the concerned national and international entities such as UNICEF [United Nations Children's Fund], to combat such evil forces as starvation, malnutrition, disease, ignorance, illiteracy, child abuse, the exploitation of children for hard labour and the harassment and annihilation of children by armed bandits in certain parts of the world, through wide news coverage of the relevant issues.

33. The conference expressed its deep concern over the accelerating degradation of the global environment mainly due to the relentless exploitation of national resources by the industrialised countries and their destructive ways as well as wasteful life styles in the present century, and conscious of the fact that the continuity of life in the world is conditional on a more committed approach towards the issue of the environment and in view of the dual standards employed by the Western media concerning this matter, urged all the pool agencies to intensify their coverage of the initiatives underway at the national and international levels to protect the environment and achieve sound, sustainable development.

34. The conference reiterated the persisting validity and relevance of the cause of a new international information and communications order as an overall circumstance in which each and every country will have an equal opportunity to express itself and to be informed in accordance with the principles of objectivity, impartiality and fairness and will be able to enjoy the fruits of modern science and technology for its development through the balanced exchange of news and information.

On the basis of the positions stipulated above, the 6th General Conference of NANAP hereby resolves

(Editorial)

A. To continue its efforts to further improve the quality, objectivity, acceptability and consequently, volume of pool copies by strict adherence to the principles of professionalism, establishing pool-desks in those participating agencies which so far lack one and strengthening the existing ones by holding editorial workshops, meetings of desk staff and regular exchanges of impact reports and promoting specialised training facilities.

B. To prepare and publish the pool style book containing editorial guidelines, professional principles and the required criteria for gathering, processing and composing articles on news and information, and

C. To take necessary steps to encourage the participating agencies to increase their exchanges of photographs

concerning different aspects of life in non-aligned countries, on a bilateral and multilateral basis, while continuing their efforts to establish a developed photo pool network.

(Training and Research)

A. To mobilize all the actual and potential resources inside and outside the non-aligned countries for the enhancement of the professional efficiency and skills of the editorial and technical personnel of the pool participating agencies, particularly those from the less-developed countries, by promoting exchanges of expertise and experiences, encouraging those member countries of the Nonaligned Movement with training institutes to grant scholarships and fellowships to the employees of other pool participants and organize seminars and workshops with the assistance of the IPDC and other international research institutes and organizations for the professionals of the pool agencies most in need,

B. To publish the newsletter on a more regular basis with the co-operation of researchers and scholars in the field of information and communications as well as veteran journalists for the purpose of enriching the contents of the newsletter to serve training needs,

C. To promote the publication of handbooks on writing and editing on specialized subjects, such as science and technology, economics, sports, the arts, energy, food and the environment, and

D. To publish the second volume of the pool's book,

(Strengthening of the Communications Network and Technical Infrastructure of Pool's Participants)

A. To concentrate efforts for developing and rationalizing the NANAP communications network by utilizing the available resources within the pool as well as seeking the assistance of UNESCO, the IPDC, the ITU [International Telecommunication Union] and other relevant international bodies,

B. To take the required initiative to further strengthen the technical infrastructure and editorial capacity of the existing re-distribution centres of the pool network and, where necessary, create new centres to ensure complete circulation of the pool services among non-aligned countries

C. To perpetuate seeking financial assistance from the IPDC, the Africa Fund and the other relevant international organizations and institutions for the implementation of technical capacities of the less developed pool agencies in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, and

D. To encourage members of the Nonaligned Movement to adopt a more co-ordinated stand during the itu meetings to safeguard their common interests.

(Tariffs)

SOUTH ASIA

A. To continue, through the office of the chairman of the coordinating committee, efforts to persuade the national non-aligned countries' governments and communication authorities (particularly during the 10th Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Nonaligned Countries to be held in Indonesia in September 1992) to reduce their telegraph and telephone tariffs of the pool agencies at least 50 percent, as a first step, followed by the introduction of the UNESCO recommended rates. Moreover, the non-aligned governments should be approached to consider favorably the possibility of providing at least a bi-directional satellite channel and a telephone circuit free of charge to their own national news agencies to enable them to hook up with the nearest pool re-distribution centre,

B. To follow up the application of the concessional tariff rates through pool agencies at the national level,

(Cooperation with the Nonaligned Bodies)

A. To give the new chairman of the co-ordinating committee the mandate to appeal to the 10th Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries to be held in Indonesia in September 1992, that it adopts concrete, urgent measures for further strengthening NAM,

B. To adopt the required measures of the effective joint coverage of the 10th summit conference in co-operation with ANTARA News Agency,

C. To give wide coverage of other events and ministerial meetings of the NonAligned Movement,

D. To publicize the decisions adopted at Nonaligned Movement meetings concerning the role of international relations for the purpose of further consolidating the Movement's position in the contemporary world situation, and

E. To further promote professional bonds with Bonac,

(Improvement of Ecopool)

A. In view of the unfair terms and conditions imposed on the economies of the non-aligned and other developing countries by the present unjust and imbalanced world economic order and the devastating repercussions of the social, cultural, educational and welfare standards of these countries, the imperative for the establishment of a new international economic order is now more tangible than at any previous time:

B. The neocolonial conditions prevailing in the world economy and trade, characterized by the developing countries' colossal foreign debts and the industrialized countries' persistent co-ordinated attempts to keep the prices of the developing countries' raw materials and products at the lowest possible level while the prices of their own manufactured goods are skyrocketing, complemented with protectionist and dumping policies, constitute a strong incentive for the non-aligned and other

developing countries to devote optimum attention strengthening their bilateral and multilateral economies and commercial bonds,

C. In this age of the determining role of "information," the collective initiative of the Pool participants to set up the Ecopool service has been a significant step for the exchange of economic information along the non-aligned countries, and

D. More active involvement by all concerned parties is required to achieve the desired quality of this service. To this end, specialized courses and workshops will have to be organized to upgrade the professional qualification of the responsible staff of the pool agencies, (co-operation with other regional news exchange systems)

The Pool shall further consolidate its professional ties with other regional and multilateral news exchange arrangements whose prime objective is to contribute to the cause of a new international information and communications order, such as the Organization of Asian-Pacific News Agencies (OANA), the Asian News Exchange System (ANEX), the Federation of Arab News Agencies (FANA), the International Islamic News Agency (IINA), the Pan-African News Agency (PANA), the National Information System Action (ASIN) and the Latin-American Agency for Special Information Services (ALASEI), (co-operation with the United Nations system)

The pool shall further strengthen its ties with UNESCO, the IPDC, the United Committee on Information, the UNDP and the ITU in order to explore possibilities for utilizing the available resources in such international fora for its development purposes and to protect the collective initiatives in those organizations to the world, and (re-assessment of the present and future conditions in the sphere of information and communications)

In view of the constant changes and advances in the domain of the telecommunication technologies and the dual impact of such developments on the exacerbation of problems related to disparities in the global flow of news and information, on the one hand, and the new horizons and opportunities provided for the leap-frog social, economic and cultural growth of the developing countries, on the other, the Pool shall try to stimulate the relevant international bodies, such as UNESCO, the IPDC and the UNDP, to mention but a few, to carry out a new elaborate study on the situation of information-communications in the last decade of the 20th century and its prospects and future implication for human life in the next century.

Commentary Views Bukan 'Cry of Oppression'

NC1906111392 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian
Kordestan in Persian 1730 GMT 18 Jun 92

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] On 9 June, the long-suffering people of Bukan took to the streets in united ranks and made the world hear their cry of oppression and their contempt for the clerical regime's injustice. The demonstrators became the target of savage attacks by the clerical regime's suppressive forces—many of the regime's subservient mercenaries firing on the defenseless people. The demonstrators attacked the regime's institutions of suppression and injustice, destroying and setting on fire banks and corrupt establishments. The shooting by the regime's criminal forces martyred eight Bukan residents and wounded 12. Over 300 people were arrested.

The Bukan people's united demonstrations—the first extensive demonstrations in Kordestan in recent years—against the clerics' wretched and hellish rule, followed those in Shiraz, Arak, and Mashhad. The regime has pressured and harassed the people of Kordestan constantly, but, while they have not surrendered during the past 13 years, extensive demonstrations like the recent one have been rare. The reason is clear.

The officials of Islamic rule consider the people of Kordestan as a thorn in their side and do not trust them. They know of their regime's retrogressive views, and they consider any oppression and extortion of the Kurdish nation to be just. The regime has realized the Kurdish people's readiness to make sacrifices for their national and natural rights and have deployed hundreds of thousands of their Armed Forces in Kordestan. These mercenaries are authorized to fire on the people in emergencies and under ordinary circumstances and to use them as targets. The shooting by the treacherous Bukan jash [pro-regime Kurds] on the Bukan people, martyring and wounding defenseless people, proves this.

The Bukan people demonstrated on 9 June to demand the punishment of a treacherous jash, but regime officials' unwillingness to take a treacherous jash to court or, at least, to investigate any crime, left the people no alternative but to rise.

If the people of Kordestan had not resorted to extensive demonstrations like that in Bukan, it was because they were using other means of struggle and also because the regime had allowed the Kordestan people's blood to be shed and had imposed an unwanted and unequal war on them. This has left the Kurdish people no alternative but to defend their rights and existence.

The issue cannot be summed up in this way. Daily, more people are becoming discontented with the clerical regime. Unemployment and poverty have placed the people in a jam, unable to obtain basic goods, which are either nonexistent, rare, or expensive. Social differences are becoming more acute each day, and robbery, corruption, and bribery have spread throughout the administration and executive.

The demonstrations in Shiraz, Arak, Mashhad, and other cities, notably Bukan, are rooted in the people's discontent with the clerical regime. While the people of Iran prepare for an uprising like the one in the fall and

winter of 1978, doing their best in their struggle against the regime's Armed Forces, Kordestan—which is the heart of revolution and uprising—will not remain silent. The national-democratic movement of the Kurdish people in Kordestan motivates every antiregime demonstration. The people of Kordestan have proven that they support the just movement of Kordestan and that the people form the major force behind this movement. The Kordestan people have realized that in parallel with the armed movement in the mountains, the cities and villages should also become the scene of battles with the regime. The people's raging force is a destructive flood, breaking every dam and capable of being used to crush the regime's suppressive force.

The spectacular demonstrations of the city of heroes—proud Bukan—prove this. Bukan's people have joined hands and entered the picture. They have risen against the regime and protested its lack of attention to their demands. They burned down the house of the criminal nurtured by the regime, and they attacked and destroyed the regime's institutions of suppression and deceit with the same high morale.

Unfortunately, several people in Bukan were martyred or wounded and arrested, but this uprising was undoubtedly a great honor for the people, manifesting their rage. Word forums and public opinion should support this movement. Expanding and spreading protest movements is a duty, bringing the masses' united force to the scene and, coordinating with others throughout Iran, surprising the regime with a coordinated uprising. Only then can the suppressors be made to kneel.

Let us again use the spectacular uprising of 1978 as the example for our revolutionary activities in organizing the public protest movement, reviving the memory of the victory over the monarchy by overthrowing the clerical regime. With hopes for that day.

Pakistan

Karachi 'Calm'; Arrests Made, Arms Seized

BK2006150492 Islamabad PTV Television Network
in English 1400 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] The situation in the curfew-affected areas of Karachi remained calm today. APP [ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN], quoting official sources, said no untoward incident was reported from these areas. According to APP, about 50 persons have been arrested so far in connection with armed clashes between rival groups of MQM [Muhajir Qaumi Movement]. Arms and ammunition were recovered from those who have been arrested. The arrests were made from areas like Landhi, Malir, Orangi, and Liaqatabad.

The administration of Karachi has announced that curfew will be relaxed for six hours in curfew-affected areas in Karachi division tomorrow. Curfew will be relaxed from 0700 to 1000 in the morning and 1600 to

1900 in the evening. The Karachi administration has also announced a list of 24 organizations whose employees have been exempted from curfew restrictions, but they will have to show their NIC [national identity card] and special identity cards. The list includes Pakistan Television Corporation and Radio Pakistan, all airlines etc. Meanwhile, the controller of examinations has announced today that all examinations of the Board of Intermediate Education, Karachi, which were scheduled to start from tomorrow, have been postponed. The new dates of the examinations will be announced later.

Army Spokesman Comments

BK2006164592 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Excerpt] ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN, quoting official sources in Karachi, has reported that the situation in the curfew-effected areas of Karachi remained peaceful and no untoward incident occurred today.

An Army spokesman said in Karachi today that 48 antisocials have been arrested since this morning on the basis of the lists prepared by intelligence agencies. The spokesman said eight people were killed and 19 injured in the clashes between two factions of a political party in the city yesterday. He said the Army had to be called in in some areas of the city due to law and order problems resulting from fighting between these factions. The Army was also called on to control the situation and protect people's lives and property. He said the Army received the orders to proceed to the disturbed areas at 1030 yesterday morning and had taken position by 1430. He said the Army did not fire a single shot in the curfew-effected areas and did not face any resistance there. The spokesman added that the crime rate in Sindh has immediately dropped as a result of Operation Cleanup in Sindh. Robbery and kidnapping have been substantially reduced and nighttime traffic in inner Sindh has been restored to a great extent.

Giving details, the spokesman said 88 bandits were arrested from 23 May to 19 June and 35 bandits killed. During this time, 43 [word indistinct] and 334 suspects arrested. He said a total of 136 stolen car incidents have been reported, out of which 66 cars have been recovered. He said a large quantity of arms and ammunition were also received during this period. [passage omitted]

Karachi Curfew Relaxed

BK2106144492 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] Karachi City remained normal during curfew breaks today between 0700 and 1000 in the morning and again between 1600 and 1900 in the afternoon. No untoward incident was reported from anywhere. Meanwhile, authorities have announced in Karachi that tomorrow curfew will be relaxed from 0600 to 1900.

According to informed sources, 60 persons were held in raids in the areas under curfew. Those arrested include criminals, absconders, and proclaimed offenders. Raids and searches for criminals are continuing in different parts of the city. Meanwhile, the army has further tightened security arrangements in the city. About 350 checkpoints have been set up in different parts of the city. These checkpoints are manned by police, rangers, and troops.

Situation in the curfew-clamped areas of Karachi is fast returning to normal. Maximum gates in different strongholds have been opened and the citizens are busy in their day-to-day activities. Meanwhile, a team of mediemen was today taken around the areas like Azizabad, Alkaram Square, and Lines area. They were briefed on the situation created by the infighting between the MQM [Muhajir Qaumi Movement] rival groups. They were told that after induction of the Pakistan Army and rangers, bloodshed in the city has been averted and the personnel from law enforcement agencies are looking for terrorists and other suspects. In the Lines area, the mediemen went around the torture cells. The victims, including women and children, narrated woeful tales of sufferings at the hands of their rivals.

General Asif Nawaz, chief of the army staff, in the meantime visited Larkana where the local brigade commander briefed him on the ongoing operations against the dacoits [bandits], terrorists, and other criminals. The corps commander, Lieutenant General Mohammad Nasir Akhtar, accompanied the chief of army staff during the visit. Gen. Asif Nawaz then held separate meetings with the civil officials.

Security 'Beefed Up'

BK2206040892 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] In the curfew-bound areas of Karachi today, there has been a curfew relaxation for 13 hours. According to an official announcement, there will be a curfew break in the city from 0600 to 1900 [0100-1400 GMT] today.

A military spokesman said in Karachi yesterday that the law enforcing agencies have given protection to the MQM [Muhajir Qaumi Movement] high command at Azizabad center as per his request. He said after the recent armed clashes in the city, police and Mehran rangers have been providing protection to the MQM high command as requested by him. According to the ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN [APP], portraits of the leaders of political parties and ethnic groups as well as flags have been removed from electric and telephone poles, government buildings, and public places in Hyderabad and Latifabad per the orders of the district administration. Officials of 55 brigade, Hyderabad, have set up information centers in Hyderabad and Latifabad to function day and night. According to APP, the 55 brigade headquarters has beefed up security in Hyderabad city and Latifabad after the Karachi incidents in order to maintain peace and tranquillity.

Military Arrests, Retirements in Sindh Denied

*BK2006164392 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network
in Urdu 1500 GMT 20 Jun 92*

[Text] An Inter-Service Public Relations [ISPR] press release has refuted the baseless reports published in a section of the press saying that the four military officers transferred from Sindh recently in connection with the Tando Bahawal incident are being retired and 14 soldiers have been arrested. The release said that reports

based on speculation and rumors on the sensitive operation being carried out in Sindh do not serve the national interest. In fact, they can cause untold damage. The media can play an important role in making the operation successful by refraining from publishing unsubstantiated reports. The press release added that the ISPR in Rawalpindi and its subordinate offices in the provincial capitals answer newspapers' queries about all matters concerning the armed forces. Any query about the authenticity of any report on the operation in Sindh can easily be referred to the ISPR in Rawalpindi or Karachi.